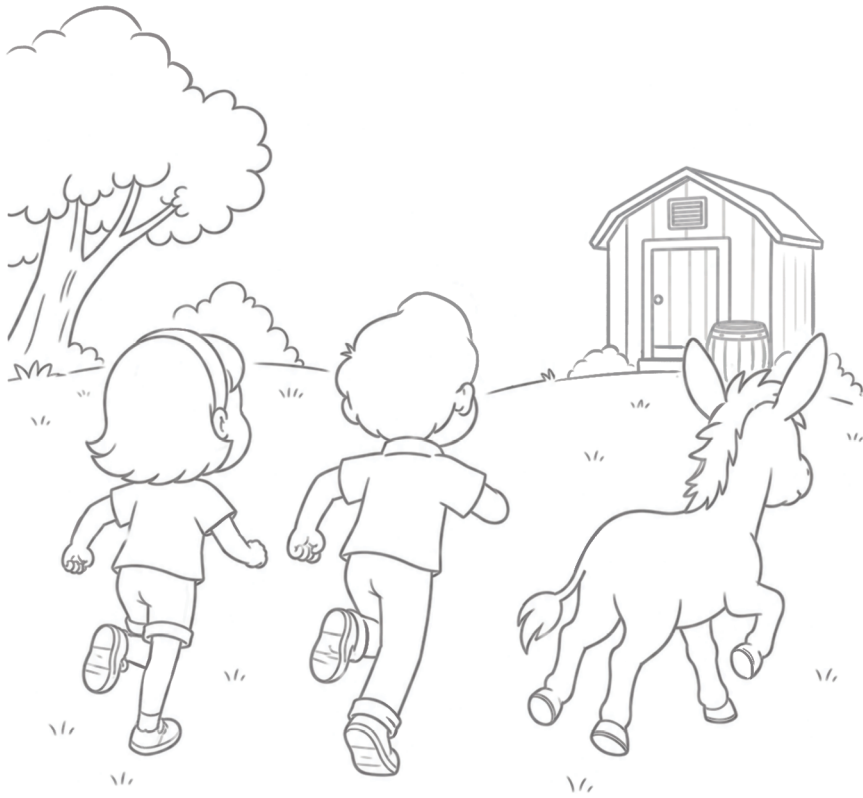




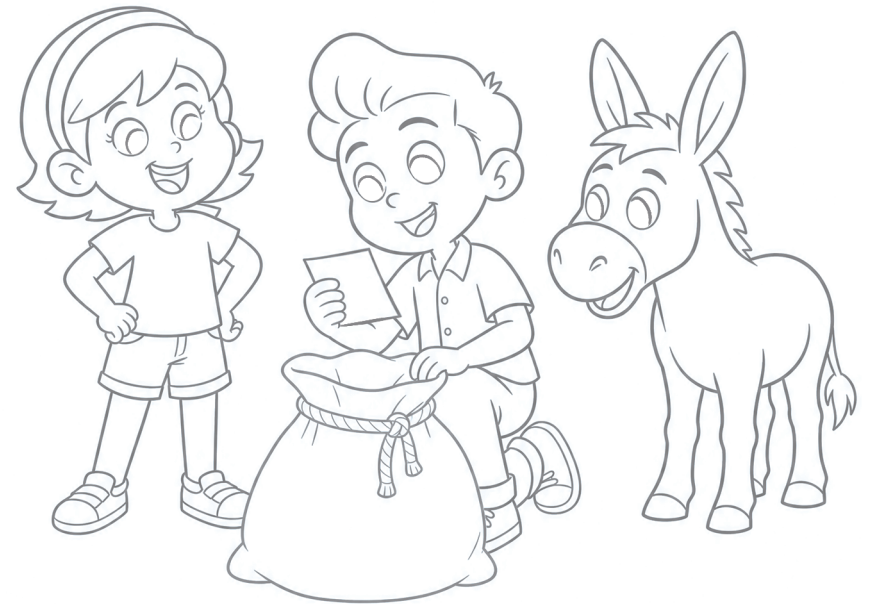
Duke grabs the note
and reads: "Go to the
shed. Find what is
round."



Duke tilts his head.
"What could be round
at the shed?"



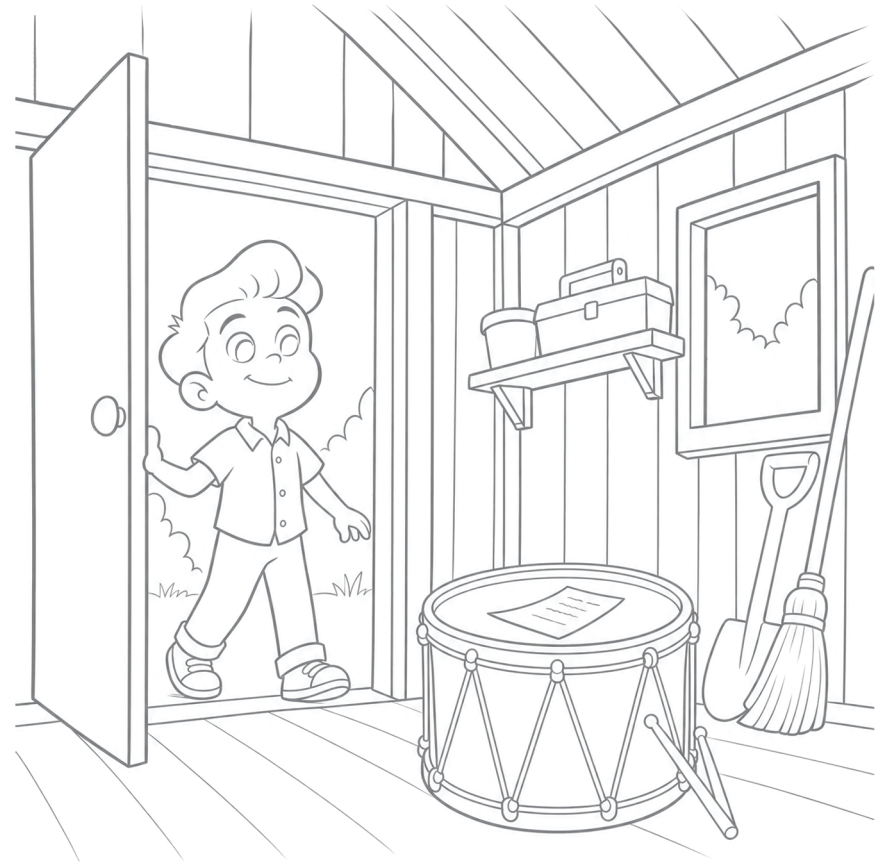
Duke, June, and Luke
hurry to the shed.
Luke stops at the door.



A note peeks out.
June laughs. “Another
clue! Read it, Duke!”



Luke sniffs and sniffs.
Under the slide, Duke
spots a blue sack.



Duke steps inside. On
the floor sits a blue
drum. A note rests on
top.



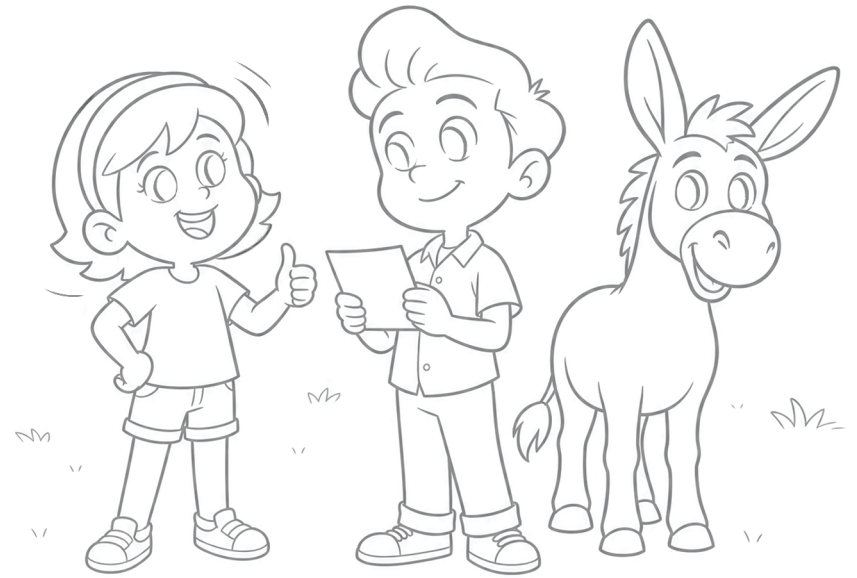
Duke reads aloud:
“Go to the hill. Find the
big box.”



At the slide,
June looks left.
Duke looks right.



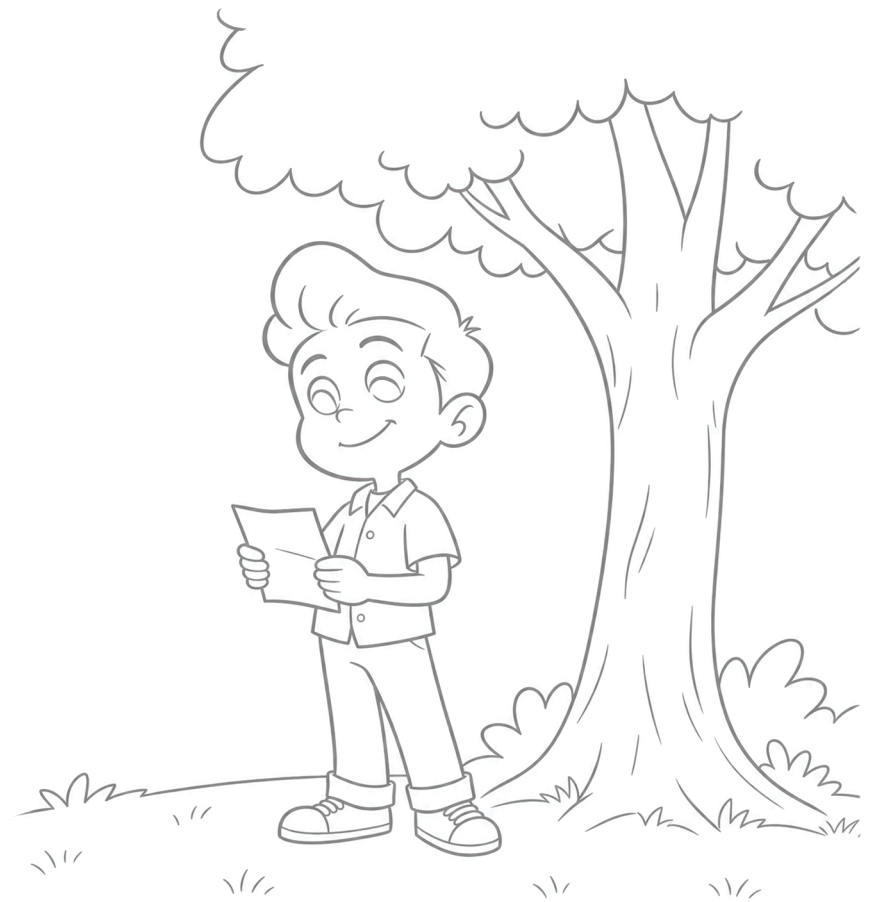
Duke grins. “I know
where that is!”
Luke snorts and trots
ahead.



Duke looks at June.
June nods.
“One last clue!”



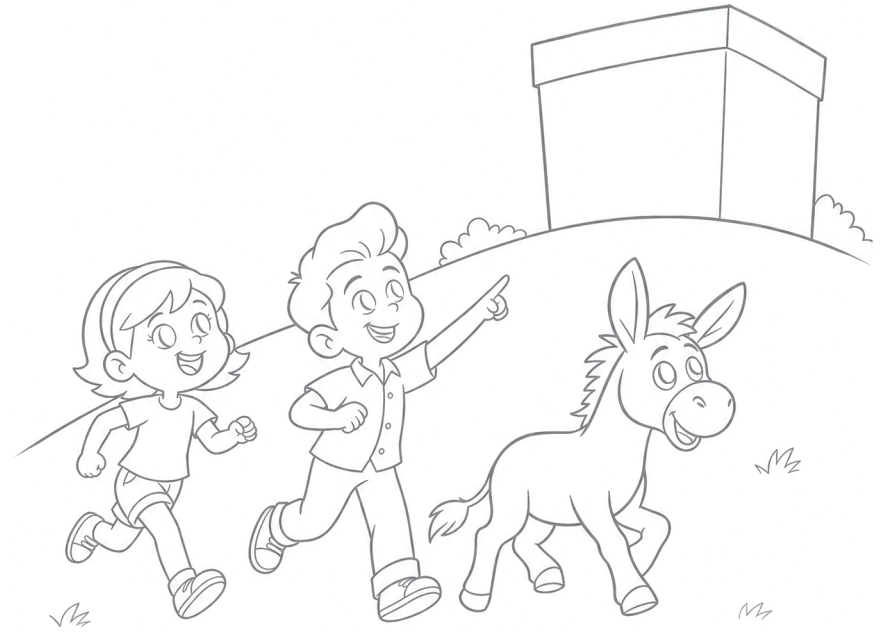
Duke, June, and Luke
run up the hill.
Luke trots fast.



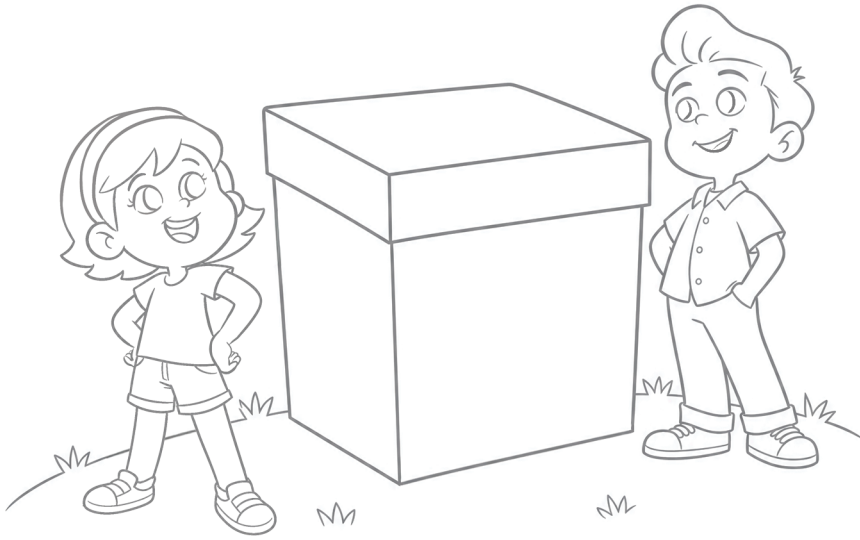
Duke reads aloud:
“Go to the slides. Look
under the red slide.”



Duke picks it up.
A note falls out.



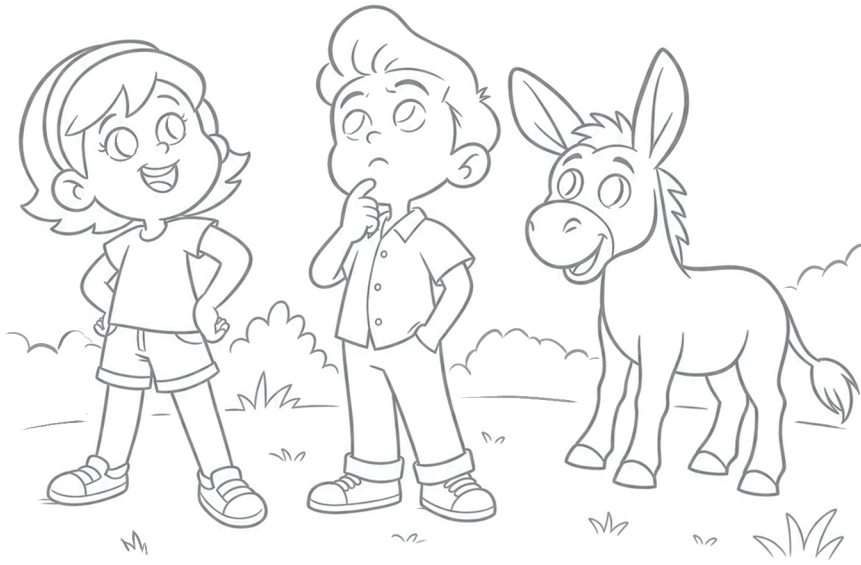
At the top,
Duke sees a
huge blue box.



His heart beats fast.
Duke steps closer.
He looks at June.
“Do I open it?”



Duke, June, and Luke
race to the pond.
A blue cone sits near
the pond.



Duke frowns. “What is
tall at the pond?”
“Let’s go see!” June
says.



June smiles.
“Open it!”



Duke lifts the lid.



June reads aloud:
“Go to the pond. Find
what is tall.”



By a tree, he sees a
blue cube. A note is
taped to the side.



“SURPRISE!”
His friends jump and
yell! Balloons rise in
the air.



A cake sits on a mat.



He taps his hoof.
Duke stops and points.



Luke the mule trots
beside them. Luke
sniffs the grass.



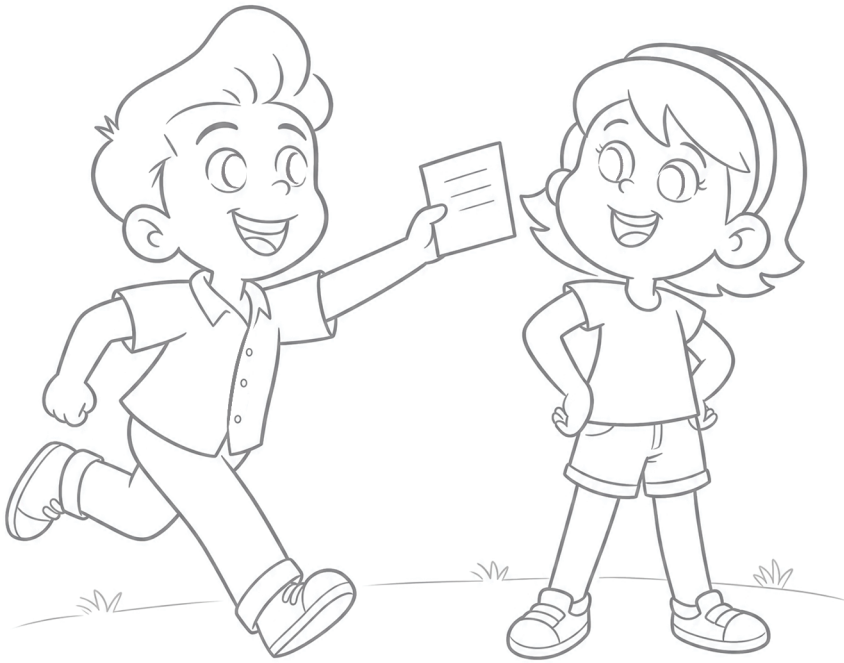
A blue card says:
“Happy Birthday,
Duke!” Duke gasps.



He looks around at his
friends.



June grins. “Let’s go!”
They rush to the gate.



Duke runs to June.
“June! I found a note!”



June smiles.



“Yes! You found all the clues!” Luke nods his head.



Duke’s eyes open wide.
“A clue? What does it mean?”



He picks it up and
reads. "Go to the gate.
Look for a cube."



Duke claps his hands.



He grins wide. “This
was the best blue clue
ever!”



Duke sits at home.
He sees a blue note on
his mat.

In This Reader:

Phonics Skill

The u_e Spelling Pattern

In the u_e spelling pattern, the final e is silent, and the u spells one of two long u sounds: /yū/ as in cube and mule, or /ū/ as in Duke, June, and Luke.

Decodable Words

u_e

cube, Duke, June, Luke, mule

Other Decodable Words: best, big, box, cake, claps, cone, drum, falls, fast, gasps, gate, grabs, grass, grins, hands, hill, home, inside, jump, last, left, lid, lifts, mat, nods, note, picks, pond, race, red, rests, rise, run, runs, rush, sack, shed, side, sits, slide, slides, smiles, sniffs, spots, steps, stops, tall, taps, tilts, top, trots, wide, yell

Heart Words

Previously Taught: a, all, and, at, be, best, big, by, do, find, for, go, happy, he, his, I, in, is, it, last, look, looks, on, one, says, see, sees, that, the, them, they, this, to, up, was, what, where, yes, you

New: blue, could, out, right

Challenge Words

ahead, air, aloud, another, around, balloons, beats, beside, birthday, card, closer, clue, clues, does, door, Duke's, ever, eyes, floor, found, friends, frowns, head, heart, hoof, huge, hurry, know, laughs, Let's, mean, near, open, peeks, points, read, reads, round, snorts, surprise, taped, tree

Talking about the Book!

You can use these comprehension questions to test your students' understanding of each story. Their responses can be verbal, or they can point to the answers in the book.

Q: How did the notes help Duke know where to go next?

A:

Q: What surprise was waiting for Duke at the end?

A:

Q: How can you tell Duke's friends wanted his birthday to be special? What did they do?

A:

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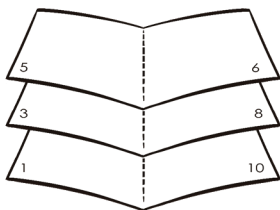
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Booklet Assembly

1. Print settings:
Landscape
2-sided
Flip along short edge
2. Print out the pdf and stack the pages, starting with page 1 on the bottom.
3. Fold the pages along the dotted line and staple the booklet together.

1. Stack



2. Staple



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