Come along with me and learn all about reading! Brian P. Cleary’s wacky sentences and Jason Miskimins’s colorful art will make phonics fun!

**A SHORT VOWEL SOUNDS BOOK**

**BOOK 1** The Bug in the Jug Wants a Hug  
A Short Vowel Sounds Book

**BOOK 2** Stop, Drop, and Flop in the Slop  
A Short Vowel Sounds Book with Consonant Blends

**BOOK 3** The Nice Mice in the Rice  
A Long Vowel Sounds Book

**BOOK 4** The Frail Snail on the Trail  
A Long Vowel Sounds Book with Consonant Blends

**BOOK 5** The Thing on the Wing Can Sing  
A Short Vowel Sounds Book with Consonant Digraphs

**BOOK 6** Whose Shoes Would You Choose?  
A Long Vowel Sounds Book with Consonant Digraphs

**BOOK 7** The Peaches on the Beaches  
A Book about Inflectional Endings

**BOOK 8** The Clown in the Gown Drives the Car with the Star  
A Book about Diphthongs and R-Controlled Vowels

*Also by Brian P. Cleary*

- Peanut Butter and Jellyfishes: A Very Silly Alphabet Book
- Math is CATegorical® series
- Words Are CATegorical® series
The Bug in the Jug Wants a Hug

A SHORT VOWEL SOUNDS BOOK

Brian P. Cleary

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Millbrook Press/Minneapolis
Dear Parents and Educators,

As a former adult literacy coach and the father of three children, I know that learning to read isn’t always easy. That’s why I developed Sounds Like Reading™—a series that uses a combination of devices to help children learn to read.

This book is the first in the Sounds Like Reading™ series. It uses rhyme, repetition, illustration, and phonics to introduce young readers to short vowel sounds.

Starting on page 4, you’ll see three rhyming words on each left-hand page. These words are part of the sentence on the facing page. They all feature short vowels. As the book progresses, the sentences become more challenging. These sentences contain a “discovery” word—an extra rhyming word in addition to those that appear on the left. Toward the end of the book, the sentences contain two discovery words. Children will delight in the increased confidence that finding and decoding these words will bring. They’ll also enjoy looking for the mouse that appears throughout the book. The mouse asks readers to look for words that sound alike.

The bridge to literacy is one of the most important we will ever cross. It is my hope that the Sounds Like Reading™ series will help young readers to hop, gallop, and skip from one side to the other!

Sincerely,

Brian P. Cleary

Look for me to help you find the words that sound alike!
Pam

jam

ham
Pam had some jam on her ham.

Can you find three words that sound alike?
bun

fun

sun
The bun had fun in the sun.

Can you find three words that sound alike?
Can you find three words that sound alike?

kid

rid

lid
The kid got rid of the lid.
Can you find three words that sound alike?
The hen in the den has a pen.
Can you find the word that sounds like Dot, hot, and cot?
Dot got hot on the cot.
Can you find the word that sounds like hog, log, and dog?
A hog on a log by a dog wants to jog.
Can you find the word that sounds like vet, pet, and wet?
The vet will get the pet wet.
Can you find the word that sounds like fat, cat, and rat?
A fat cat sat on a rat.
Ed

bed

red
Ed is fed on a red bed.
Can you find the word that sounds like pig, wig, and dig?
A pig in a big wig will dig.
Can you find the word that sounds like mink, ink, and sink?
A pink mink with ink is at the sink.
The tan man ran with a can and a pan.

Can you find two words that sound like man, can, and pan?
Can you find two words that sound like Nell, bell, and well?
Tell Nell that her bell fell in the well.
Can you find two words that sound like bug, jug, and rug?
A bug in a jug on a rug by a mug wants a hug.
Brian P. Cleary is the author of the best-selling Words Are CATegorical® series as well as the Math Is CATegorical® and Adventures in Memory™ series. He has also written several picture books and poetry books. In addition to his work as a children’s author and humorist, Mr. Cleary has been a tutor in an adult literacy program. He lives in Cleveland, Ohio.

Jason Miskimins grew up in Cincinnati, Ohio, and graduated from the Columbus College of Art & Design in 2003. He currently lives in North Olmsted, Ohio, where he works as an illustrator of books and greeting cards.

Alice M. Maday has a master’s degree in early childhood education from Butler University in Indianapolis, Indiana, and a Ph.D. in early childhood education, with a focus in literacy, from the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis. Dr. Maday has taught at the college level as well as in elementary schools and preschools throughout the country. In addition, she has served as an emergent literacy educator for kindergarten and first-grade students in Germany for the U.S. Department of Defense. Her research interests include the kindergarten curriculum, emergent literacy, parent and teacher expectations, and the place of preschool in the reading readiness process.

For even more phonics fun, check out all eight SOUNDS LIKE READING™ titles listed on the back of this book! And find activities, games, and more at www.brianpcleary.com.
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