

CHARGE INTO READING

Decodable Reader  
with literacy activities

# Water the Horses

R-Controlled Vowels

Brooke Vitale  
Mary Biswas



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R-Controlled Vowels



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CHARGE MOMMY  
BOOKS  
Riverside, CT

## The following R-controlled vowel words appear in this story:

acorn	corn	gathers	offers	under
are	dark	Harper	peppers	warns
barn	farm	harvests	porch	water
Bertha	first	her	slathers	Whiskers
birds	for	herself	slurps	wonders
blurts	forget	horses	snort	yard
burlap	forgot	hurls	squirts	yogurt
butter	furball	kernels	start	
chirping	garden	morning	thunder	
chores	garlic	mother	turns	

## The following high-frequency word appears in this story: looks

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Resources created by Megan Hughes  
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Created in consultation with literacy specialist Marisa Ware, MSEd

It is dark on the farm,  
but Harper has to start her day.



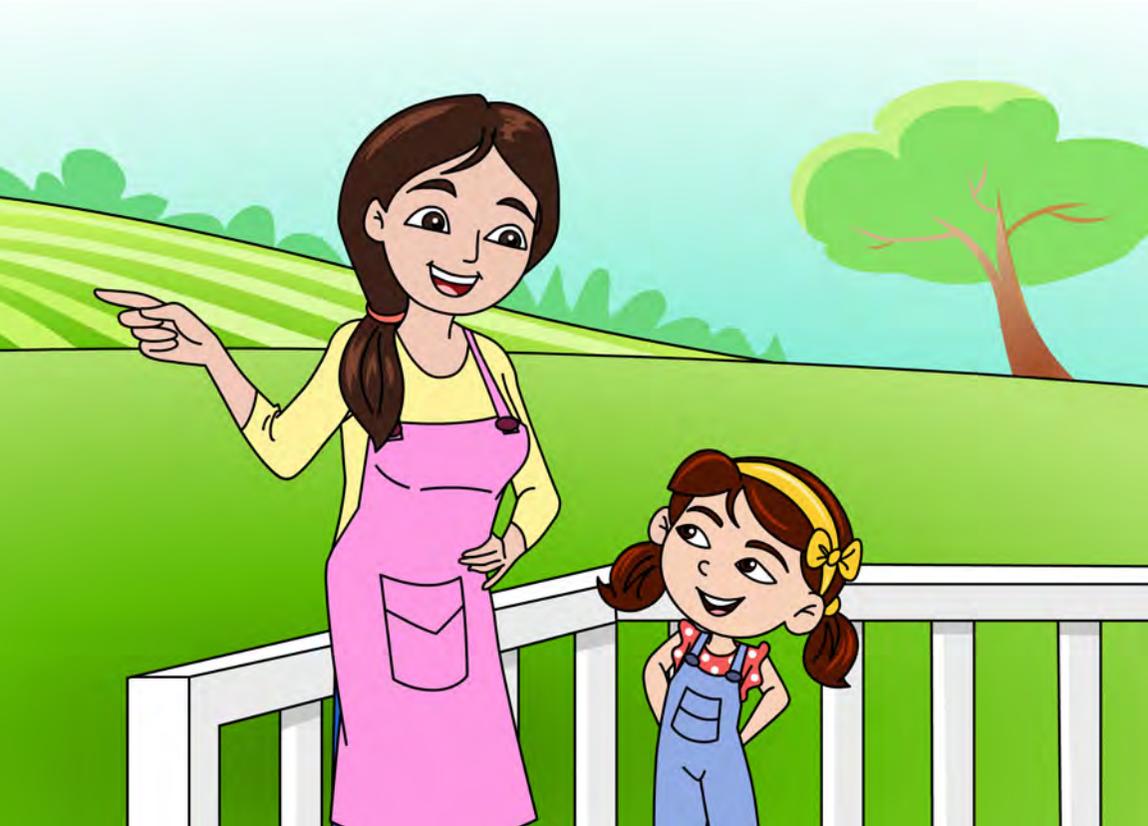
Harper slurps her yogurt.  
She slathers acorn butter  
on her bagel.



Then Harper looks at the yard.  
It is time for her  
morning chores.



“Do not forget to water the horses,” her mother warns.



Harper nods.  
“I will water the horses first.”



Harper spots her cat Whiskers.  
“Want to water the horses  
with me, furball?”



Birds are chirping on the porch.  
Whiskers hurls herself at them.  
“Or not!” Harper blurts.



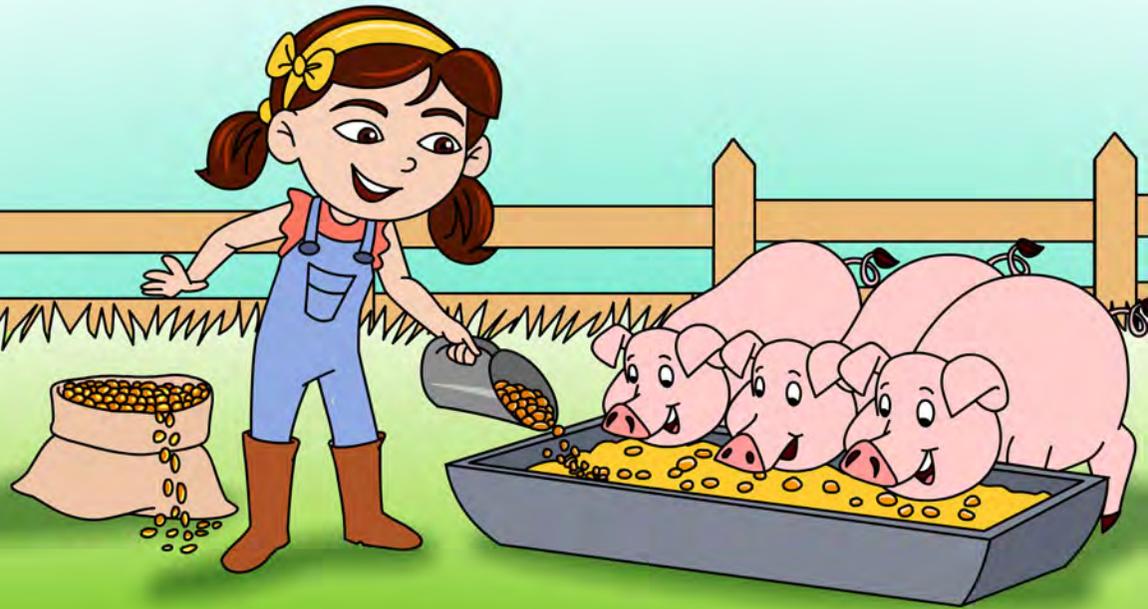
Harper looks at the yard.  
"What did I forget?"  
she wonders.  
"Oh, the garden!"



Harper harvests the peppers.  
Harper harvests the garlic.



Harper grabs a burlap sack.  
The pigs snort as Harper  
offers them kernels of corn.



In the barn, Harper sets a  
bucket under Bertha.  
Milk squirts into the bucket.



Harper gathers eggs and turns  
for home. "What did I forget?"

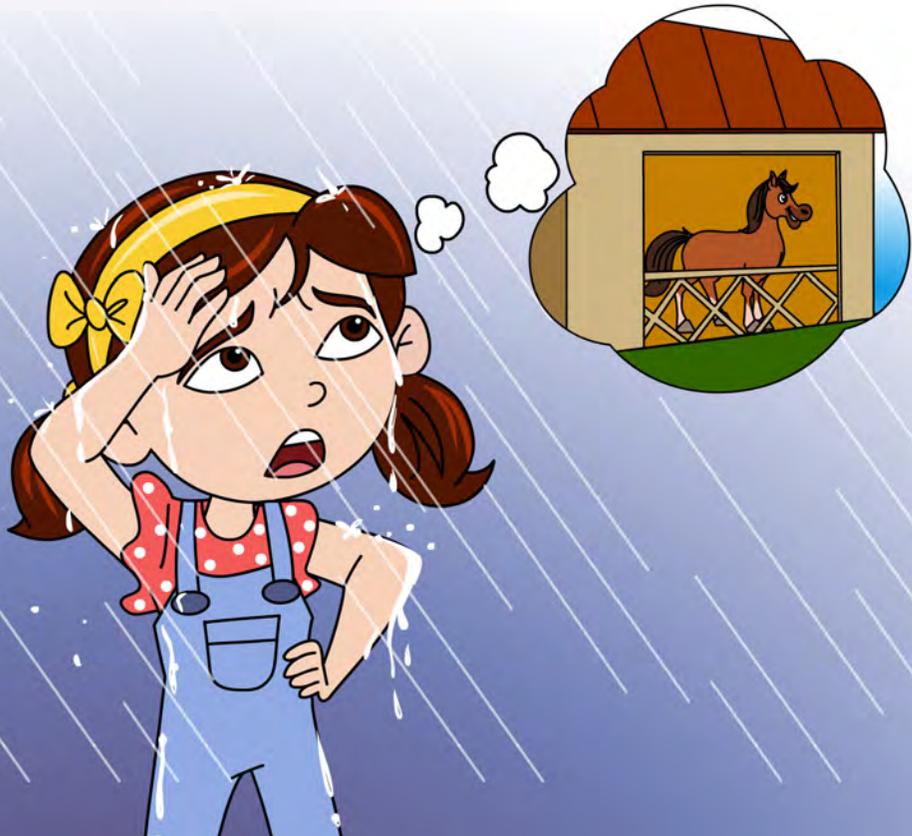
Harper wonders.



Just then, thunder claps.  
Water falls on Harper.



“Oh, no!  
I forgot to water the horses!”



## Let's Talk Literacy!

Read the sentence below. Then circle the picture that matches the sentence.

**The pigs snort as Harper offers them kernels of corn.**



# Let's Talk Literacy!

Each of the words below has an **r-controlled vowel**. Sound out each word. Then draw a line from **each word** to its **matching picture**.



**barn** **bird** **burger** **corn** **garlic** **horse**



# Let's Talk Literacy!

Read each sentence below.  
Then underline the words with an **r-controlled sound**.

- 1. Water the horses in the barn.**
- 2. Harper rose before the sun.**
- 3. Mark parks the car.**
- 4. Turn on the mixer first.**

Answers: 1. Water, horses, barn; 2. Harper, before; 3. Mark, parks, car; 4. Turn, mixer, first

# Let's Talk Literacy!

Each picture word below uses an **AR**.  
Write the word that goes with each picture. Remember to **keep your r-controlled vowels together**.



Answers: h-ar-p / s-c-ar-f / y-ar-n

# Let's Talk Literacy!

Look at each picture below. Then read the words below each picture. **Circle the word** that matches the picture.



bar card car



perch church lurch



adder ladder liter



forth form fork



orca oral tort



arm card cord

# Let's Talk Literacy!

Unscramble the letters to form a word with an **r-controlled vowel**. Then draw a line from the word to its matching picture. Keep the R-controlled vowel together on one line.

**runse**    \_\_\_\_\_

**xmier**    \_\_\_\_\_

**rcht**    \_\_\_\_\_

**hron**    \_\_\_\_\_

**tnanler**    \_\_\_\_\_



Answers: nurse, mixer, torch, horn, lantern

# Let's Talk Literacy!

Fill in the **missing r-controlled word** from each sentence.

**churns butter parka snores**

1. Carmen is an \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Put on a scarf and \_\_\_\_\_.
3. My mother \_\_\_\_\_ at bed.
4. Mark \_\_\_\_\_ the butter.

Answers: artist, parka, snores, churns

# Let's Talk Literacy!

Find your way from the **start** of the maze to the **end** by following the picture words that use an **R-controlled vowel**.

**start**



**end**

Answers: burger, horn, bird, orca, garlic, acorn, ladder, ladder, horse, organ, ruler, purse, shirt