

A LONG VOWEL SOUNDS BOOK WITH CONSONANT BLENDS



The Frail Snail on the Trail



BRIAN P. CLEARY

Illustrations by **JASON MISKIMINS**

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The Frail Snail on the Trail

A LONG VOWEL SOUNDS BOOK WITH
CONSONANT BLENDS

Brian P. Cleary

illustrations by
Jason Miskimins

Consultant:

Alice M. Maday

Ph.D. in Early Childhood Education with a Focus in Literacy
Assistant Professor, Retired
Department of Curriculum and Instruction
University of Minnesota

**to Mrs. Clarke,
my third-grade teacher in Richfield, Minnesota
—B.P.C.**

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Dear Parents and Educators,

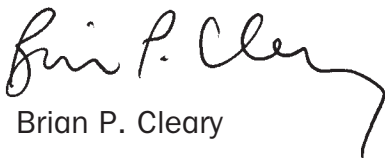
As a former adult literacy coach and the father of three children, I know that learning to read isn't always easy. That's why I developed **Sounds Like Reading™**—a series that uses a combination of devices to help children learn to read.

This book is the fourth in the **Sounds Like Reading™** series. It uses rhyme, repetition, illustration, and phonics to introduce young readers to long vowel sounds and consonant blends—“sound-outable” letter combinations such as *fl*, *tr*, *br*, and *st*.

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 long vowels and consonant blends. 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!**



swine



twine



spine



Can you find
three words that
sound alike?





The **swine** put **twine** on my **spine**.

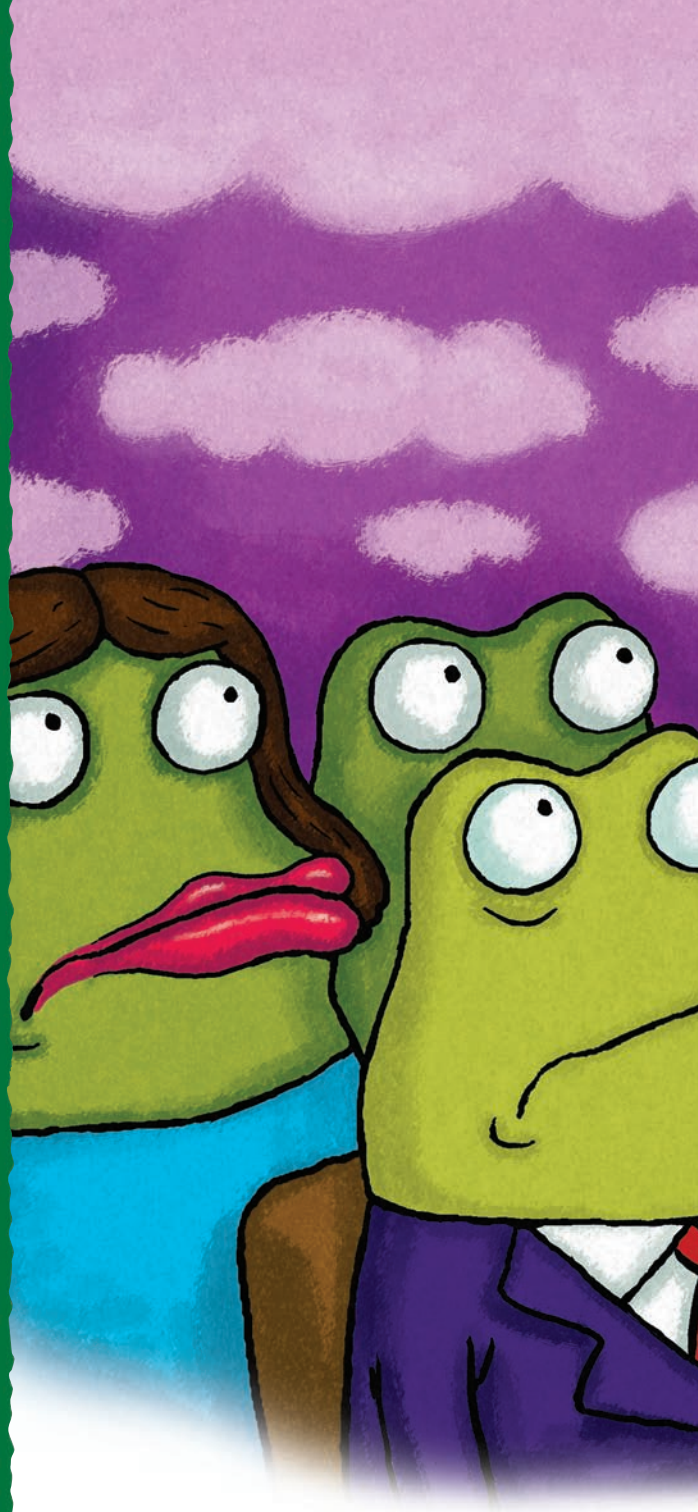
smoke



croak



spoke



My name is—
Croak!



The **smoke** made her **croak**
as she **spoke**.



creep



sleep



steep





Can you find three words that sound alike?

We **creep** and **sleep** on a hill that is **steep**.



frail



snail



trail





Can you find three words that sound alike?



The **frail snail** is on the **trail**.

steam



cream



dream





The **steam** came from the
cream in a **dream**.

Can you find
three words that
sound alike?



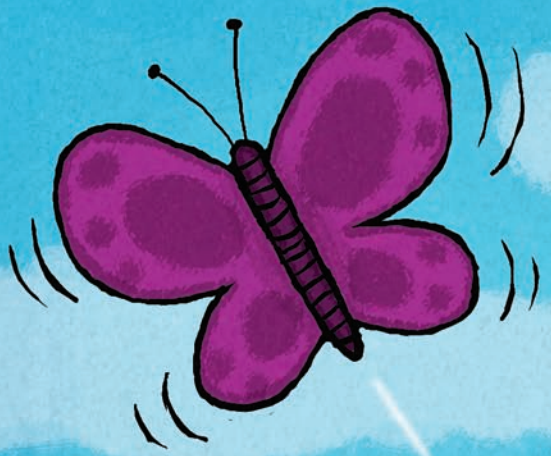
cry



fly



sky



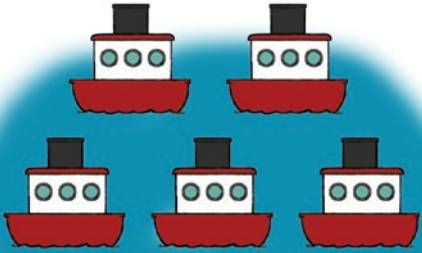
Can you find
the word that
sounds like cry,
fly, and sky?





I **cry** when I **try** to **fly** in the **sky**.

fleet

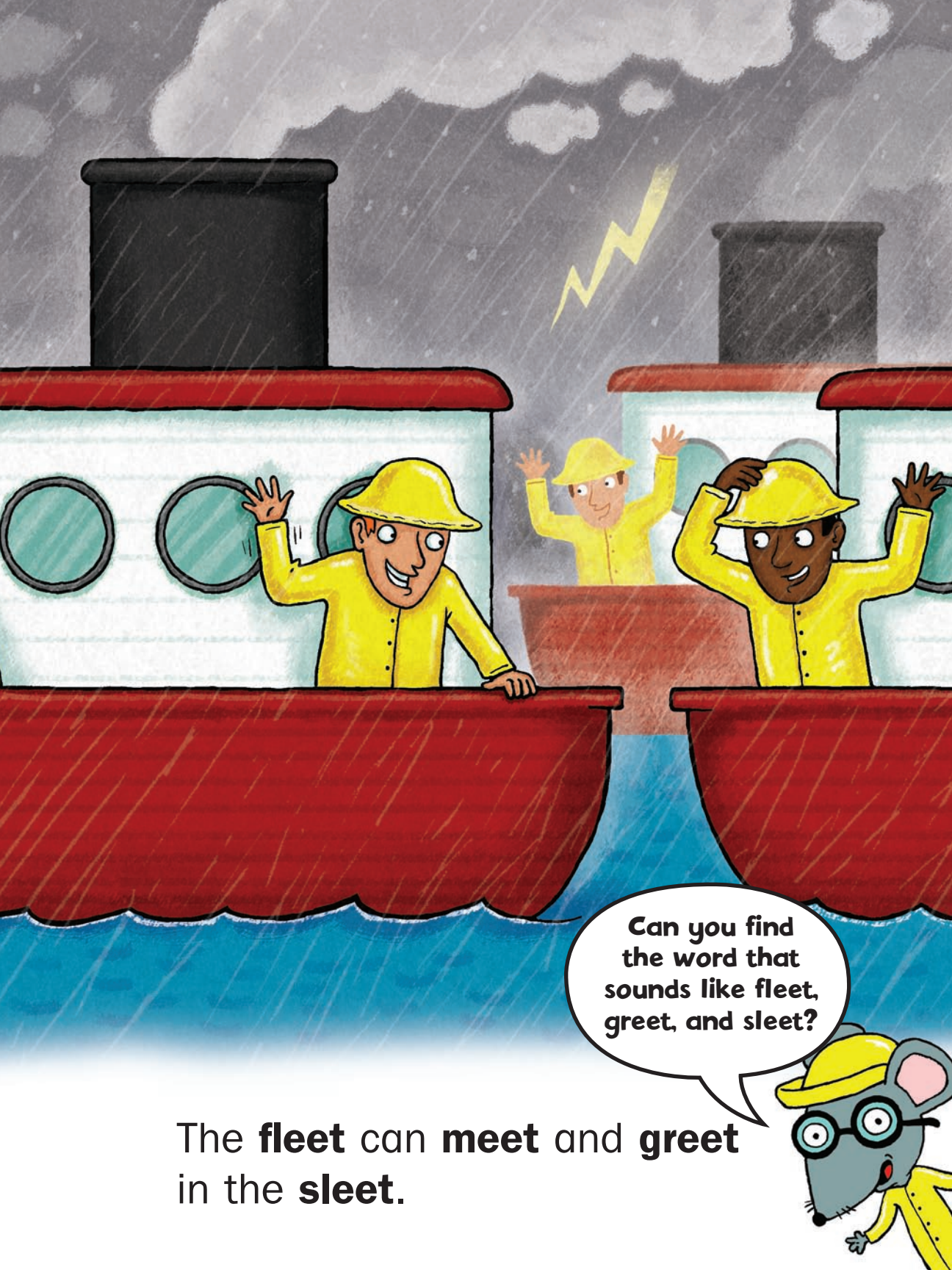


greet



sleet





Can you find the word that sounds like fleet, greet, and sleet?

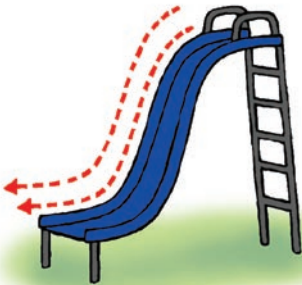
The **fleet** can **meet** and **greet** in the **sleet**.



bride



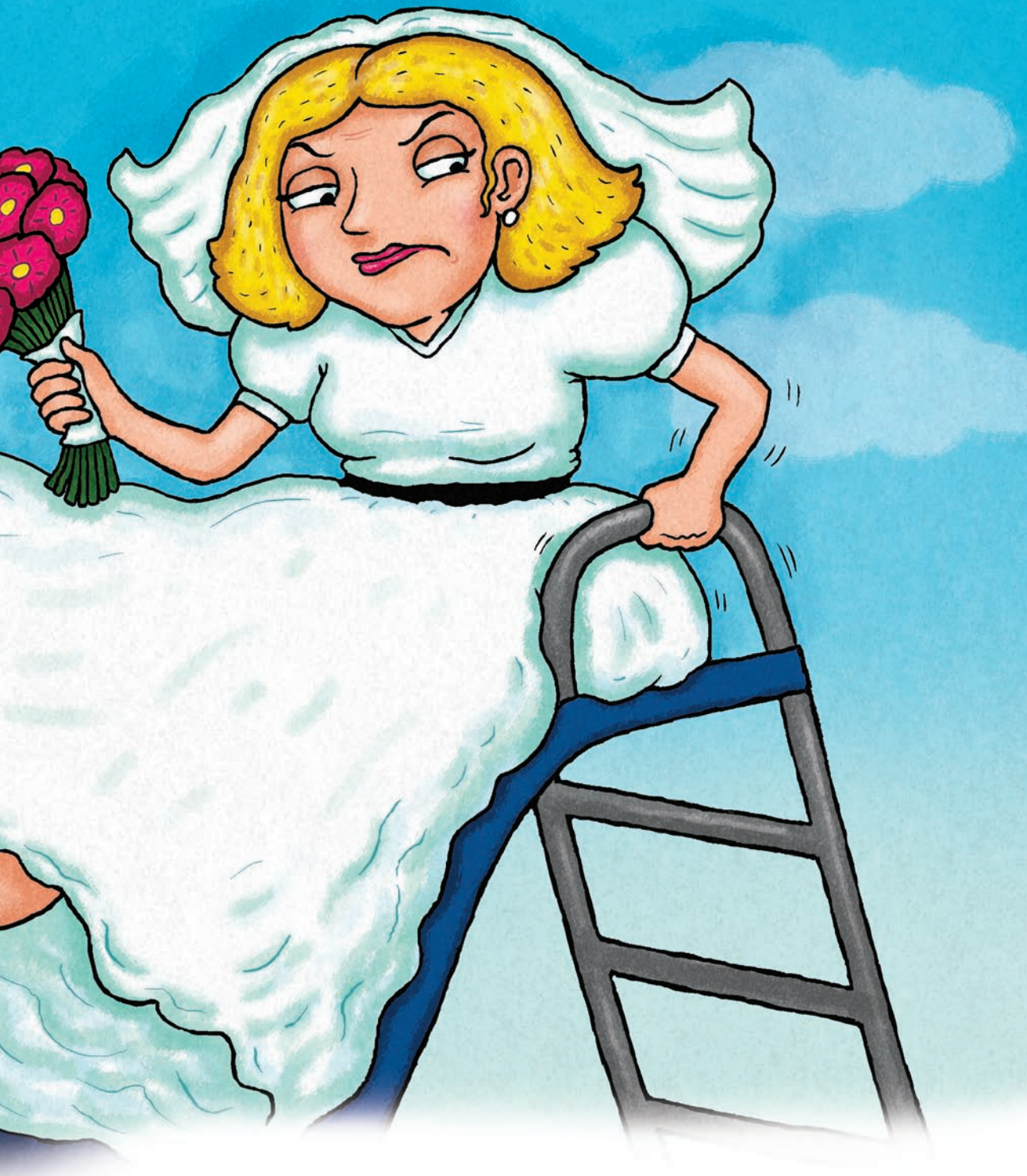
glide



slide



Can you find the word that sounds like bride, glide, and slide?



The **bride** tried to **glide** down
the **slide**.

drew



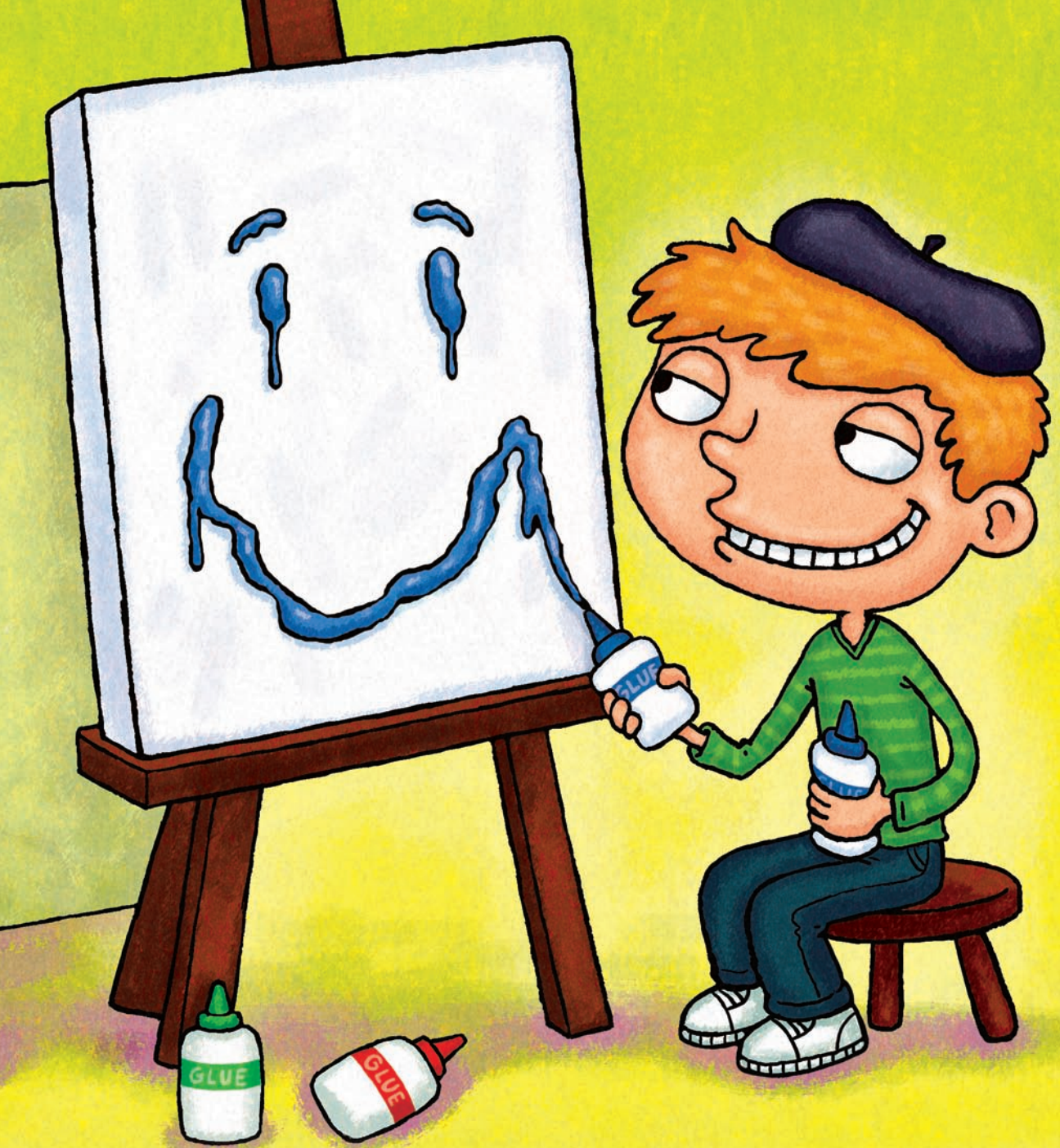
blue



glue



Can you find the word that sounds like drew, blue, and glue?

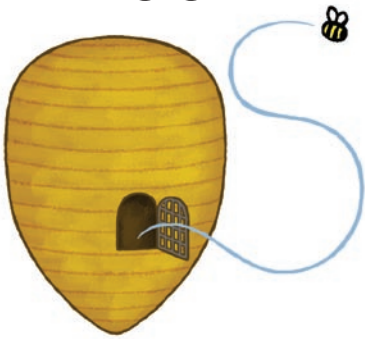


It is **true** that he **drew** with **blue glue**.

tree



free



flee



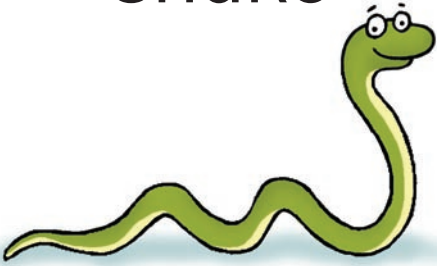


The **bee** by the **tree** was **free**
to **flee**.

Blake



snake



steak



Can you find
the word that
sounds like Blake,
snake, and steak?





Blake and the **snake** ate
a **steak** by the **lake**.

price



spice

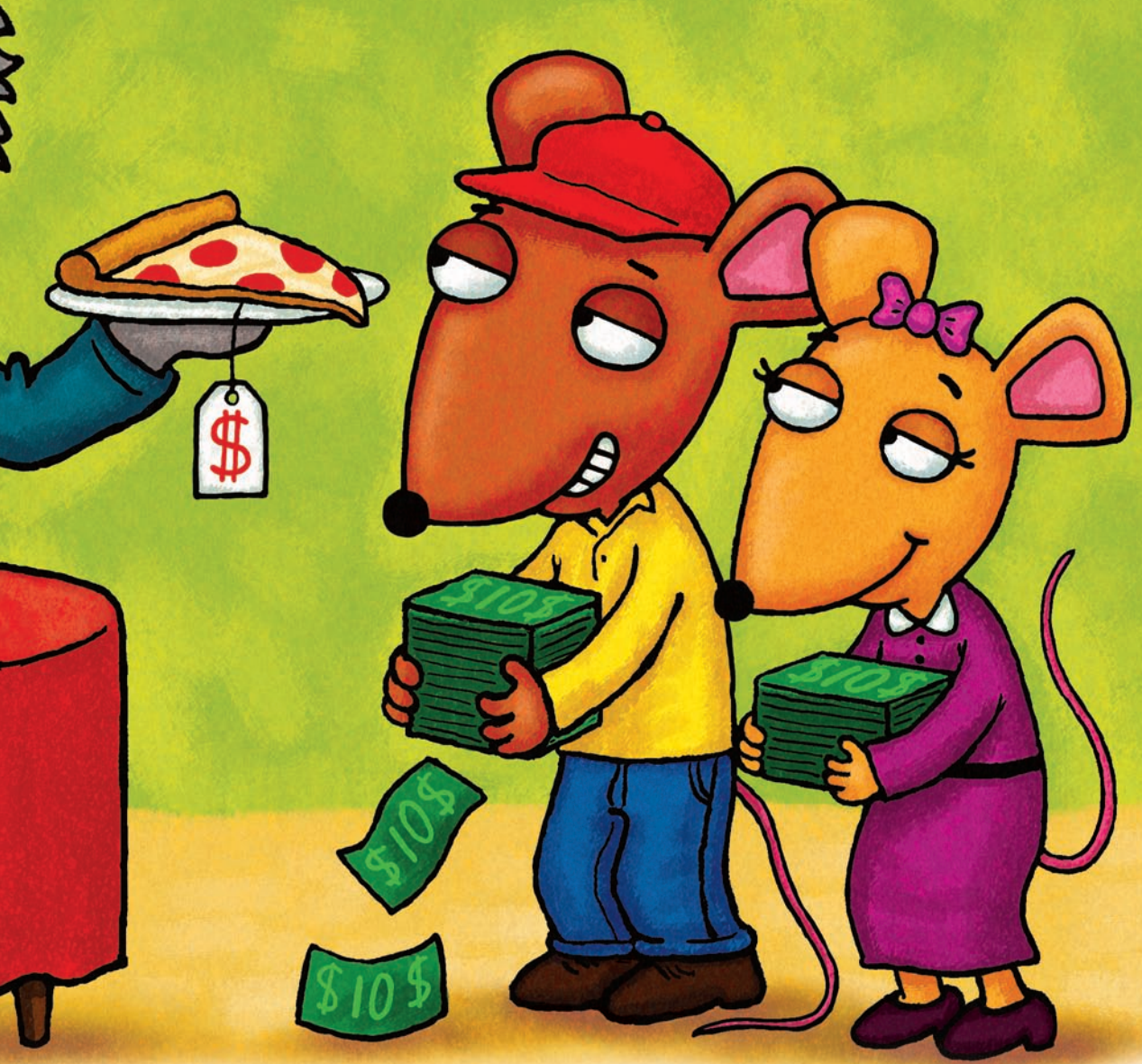


slice



Can you find
two words that
sound like price,
spice, and slice?





The **mice** paid **twice** the **price** for the **spice** and the **slice**.

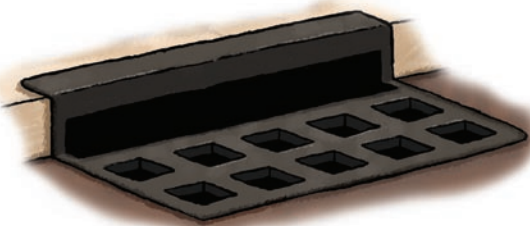
grain



Spain



drain



Can you find two words that sound like grain, Spain, and drain?





The **plain grain** from **Spain** fell into the **main drain**.

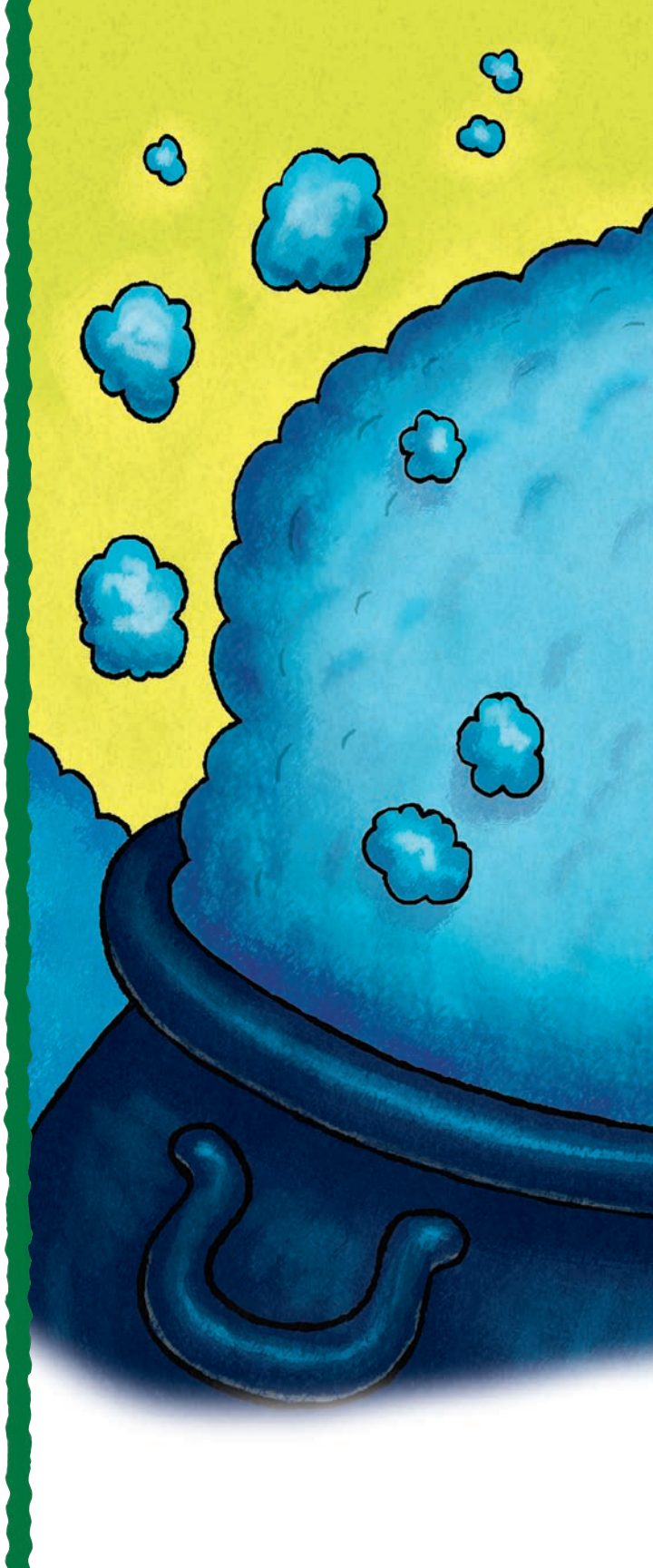
flew



blue



stew





Can you find two words that sound like flew, blue, and stew?




Sue flew as the blue stew grew.

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.



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the back of this book!

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games, and more at
www.brianpcleary.com.

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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!



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

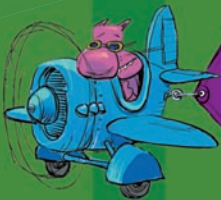
BOOK 4 The Frail Snail on the Trail
A Long Vowel Sounds Book with Consonant Blends

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



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