Ladybird Readers

Starter A

The Fun Run

It is a fun run. The children run.
Miss Tess has a medal for Ross and Gus.

CEFR Level Pre-A1
Text type: modern story
Word count: 84
Lexile measure: BR

Lesson objectives

Letters and sounds
u f g j k m r s ss ll

Vocabulary focus
Position: *back, front*
Verbs in the present simple: *go, open, run, sleep, stop*
General: *children, eyes, fun, hot, kit, medal*

Aims
- read/listen and respond to the story
- identify and recognize key sounds in words
- recognize key words in context
- follow a sequence of events

Resources
Reader
Activity Book
Flashcard download 1–10
Audio download (UK/US) tracks 1, 2, 7

Timing: 30–40 minutes
This is to be used as a general guide and will depend on group size, the pace of learning, and the children's language ability.

We would suggest 10 minutes for **Before reading**, 10 minutes for **During reading** and 10 minutes for **After reading**. Additional time can be used for further activities.

Lesson plan

Before reading

Make sure that the children are comfortable with the **Picture words** at the start of the Reader and give them the opportunity to go through the wordless version of the story, **Look at the story**. Both of these are available as an audio recording (Audio track 1).

Read out or play the recording of the **Picture words** (Audio track 1). Point to the pictures as the children hear the words. Ask: *Who are the children? Who is Miss Tess?*

Show the children the front cover, and say:
Look, who are the children? Can you remember their names? What color are the children's clothes? What are they doing? Can you show me? Yes, they are running!

Ladybird Readers

Signal to the children that you are about to read or listen to the story. You might like to use an instrument for this, such as a bell or a triangle, or whisper to the children to create an atmosphere of calm expectation.

During reading

Read out or play the recording of the story (Audio track 2). As you read or listen, point to the characters on the page. If the children have their Reader open (this is optional at this stage), ask them to point and count the number of children out loud with you.

After each page, pause and ask the children simple questions to check their understanding, for example:

How many children are there? What are they wearing? What color is Jill's kit?

Read the story again. This time ask three children to volunteer to be Gus, Ross, and Jill. Give each of the three children a piece of paper with their character's name. Ask them to stand in order and move around, depending on who is in front and who is at the back during the race. Encourage the other children to join in and make suggestions.

After reading

Ask the children to talk about the fun run in the story. Ask:

Who won the race? Who got a medal? What did Gus do?

Encourage them to look through the **Read the story** version to find words with a particular sound. Display a Flashcard in the center of the circle or on the board. Say:

*Look, a medal /**m**/ medal! Can you say /**m**/? Can you find a medal in the story?*

Ask volunteers to pick up different Flashcards. Encourage them to say the key sound.

Give the children some time to turn the pages of the story for themselves. Monitor and ask questions to individual children or the whole group, for example:

Did you like the story? Do you like running? Who is your favorite – Gus or Ross?

Use the activities in the Reader and Activity Book to reinforce key sounds and vocabulary, and to check children's understanding of the story. The chant on Activity Book page 16 (Audio track 7) will help to develop children's pronunciation and phonics skills.

Differentiation

Extra support
Play a matching game. Make two word cards for each of the Picture words. Place these face down on the floor or on a table. Encourage the children take turns to try and find a matching pair.

Extension
Fast-finishers can design their own fun run kit. Ask them to write their names on the sports shirt and label the different colors they have used in their design.