

The Fairy's Wings reinforces the most common ways that the phoneme /air/ is represented.

Purpose of this book
During the week your child has been learning a number of ways to represent the phoneme /air/. Your child has had lots of experience reading single sentences which use irregular, high frequency words or camera words, and words with the /air/ representations. This book moves children on to becoming more accurate and fluent readers.

Phoneme representations
Below are the most common ways that the target phoneme can be represented. Help your child notice the most common position of these representations in a word.

Grapheme	As in the word(s)	Common position in a word
air	fairy, hair	middle and end
ear	bear	end
are	rare	end
ere	where	end

How to use this book
Start with the book closed. Tell your child he/she is going to read a story. Ask your child what he/she thinks may happen in the story. Are there any clues in the title or the illustration?

Turn to the word list on page 1 and have your child practise the phoneme and show you an example of a word which uses this representation. When confident, your child should practise reading the decodable words. Encourage him/her to blend the phonemes and then say the whole word. If he/she gets stuck, a gentle reminder of the phoneme that the letter(s) represents will help. Then run your finger along the word and say it out loud.

When your child is familiar with the story, move on to 'After Reading' at the back of the book. Work through the retell and the questions for discussion. The discussion is designed to reinforce the early comprehension strategies:

Comprehension strategy	What it means
Creating sensory images	I can imagine
Inference	I can work it out
Background knowledge	I can use what I know
Vocabulary	I am learning new words

Read it! Spell it!
Remember, if a child can read a word he/she can attempt to write it.

You may also like to dictate parts of this story to your child.

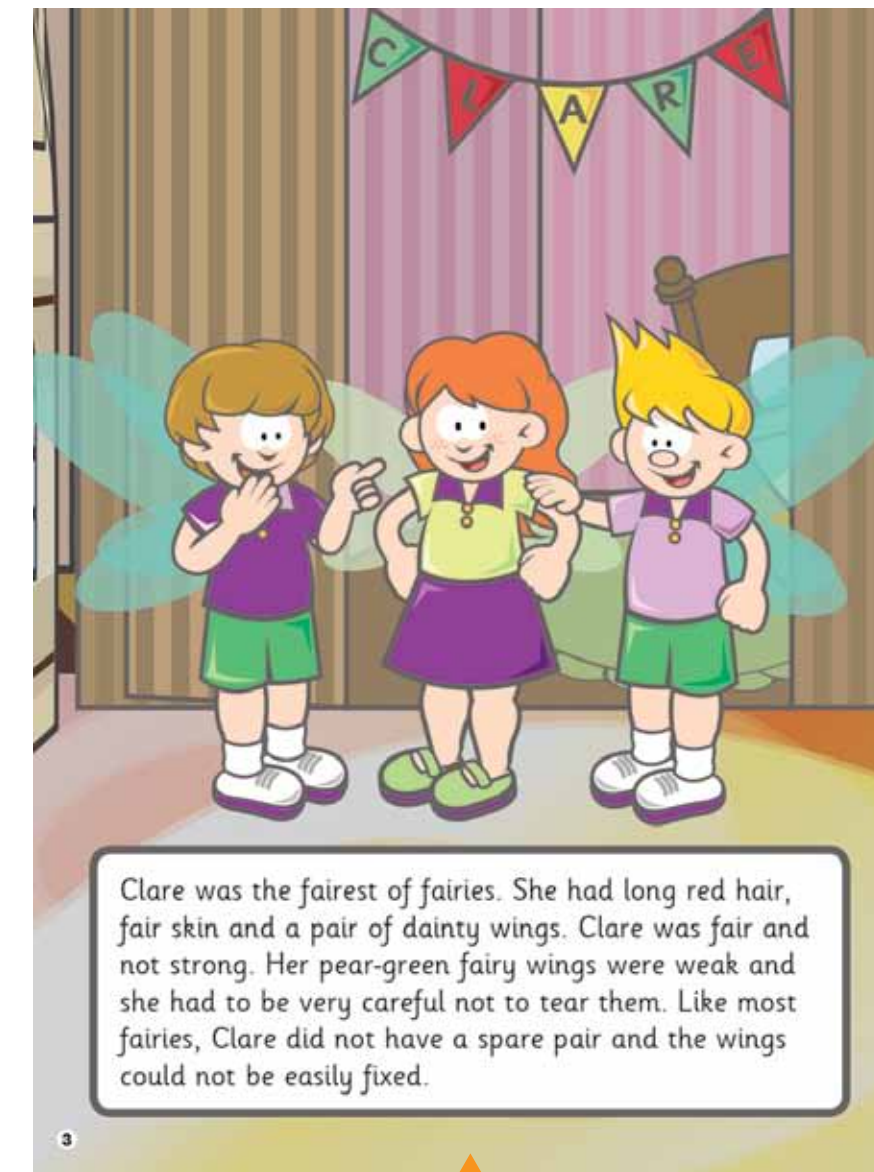
Clear parent's instructions, should you want to send the books home. This ensures that the school and parents are partners in learning.

Representations
air ear are ere eir

Decodable Words

bear	ware	lair	pair
fair	pear	hair	care
dare	hare	year	spare
Ware's	Clare	Blair	aware
their	there	where	flair
glare	chair	dared	Adair
tears	fairy	Clare's	glared
scared	stared	stairs	repair
shared	fairies	careful	parents
airfare	fairest	software	declared
careless	wherever	Alasdair	somewhere
daredevils		scaredy-cat	

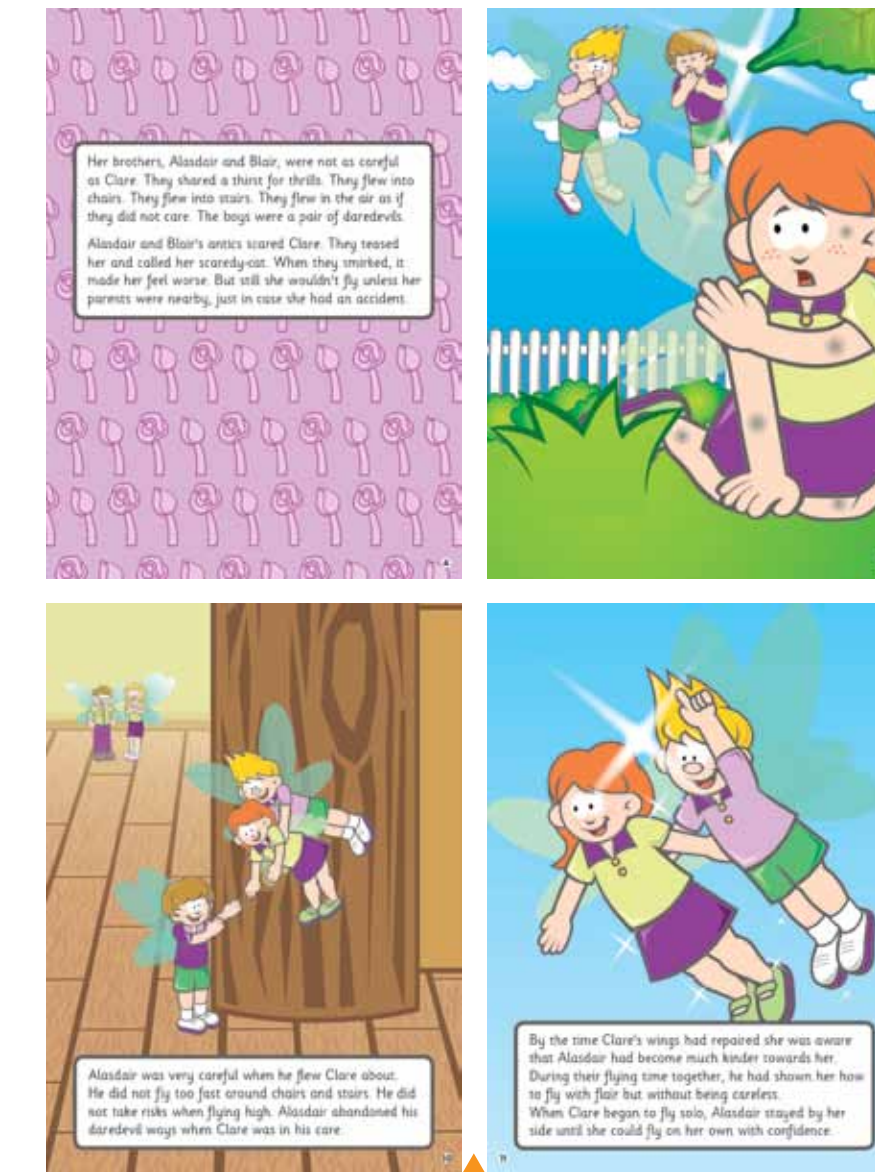
On this page the child practices blending the /air/ phoneme within words. This extra practice ensures children get lots of success on their first reading.



And off they go. You will notice that there are camera words (or irregular, high frequency words) included. Unlike series 1 and series 2, the camera words are not in bold. This is because we are now expecting children to make their own decision as to how to read unknown words.



The stories are a great opportunity to practice reading with expression. Also there are further opportunities to extend and widen vocabulary.



The illustrations are bright, energetic, and loved by children. You will notice that the illustrations extend and support the story. They are not there to TELL the story. This means children cannot rely on the pictures to guess unknown words.

After Reading

Retell
Ask your child to retell the story in as much detail as he/she can. Details include: characters, setting, and story sequence. Ideally this retell should be in the sequence in which the events occur. If a child recalls the events in a random order, write the responses down and then work together to sort them into the correct time order.

Questions for discussion

- 1 What are some other words for "lair" on page 2?
- 2 Who usually lives in a lair?
- 3 What clues would alert the Adairs that fairies are living in their house?
- 4 How do you feel when you do something daring?
- 5 When the brothers smirked at Clare, what did they do?
- 6 I wonder what Clare saw in the back yard.
- 7 What is a daredevil?
- 8 Why has the author used capital letters on page 5?
- 9 How was Clare feeling after her accident?
- 10 I wonder what caused the glare from the window.
- 11 How did Alasdair change?
- 12 Tell me about a time when you learnt something new.

Extra guided reading activities are included. There is a retell and comprehension questions covering the early skills of: creating sensory images, drawing inference, background knowledge and vocabulary expansion.