

READ ON YOUR OWN

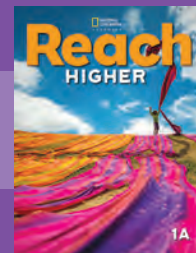
PHONICS FOCUS

- ▶ Vowel Digraphs *ai, ay*
- ▶ Contractions

Read on Your Own readers reinforce phonics and high-frequency words in *Reach Higher*. The readers feature decodable texts, including fiction and nonfiction, and cover a variety of science and social studies topics.

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This reader reinforces phonics and vocabulary taught in *Reach Higher 1A*.



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READ ON YOUR OWN



You're
on the
Trail!



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New High Frequency
Words

funny
hurt
light
mean
sea
sound



Target Sound/Spellings

Vowel Digraphs
ai, ay

Selection:
Animal Prints

clay
day
faint
may
snail
sprays
trail(s)
train(ed)
training
way

Contractions

Selection:
A Fun Fact

he'll
I'll
I'm
it'll
I've
they're



You're on the Trail!

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A Fun Fact page 16



Words with ai, ay

Look at each picture. Read the words.

Example:



braid



chain



paint



clai



spray



tray

funny

hurt

light

mean

sea

sound

Key Words

Look at the pictures.

Read the sentences.

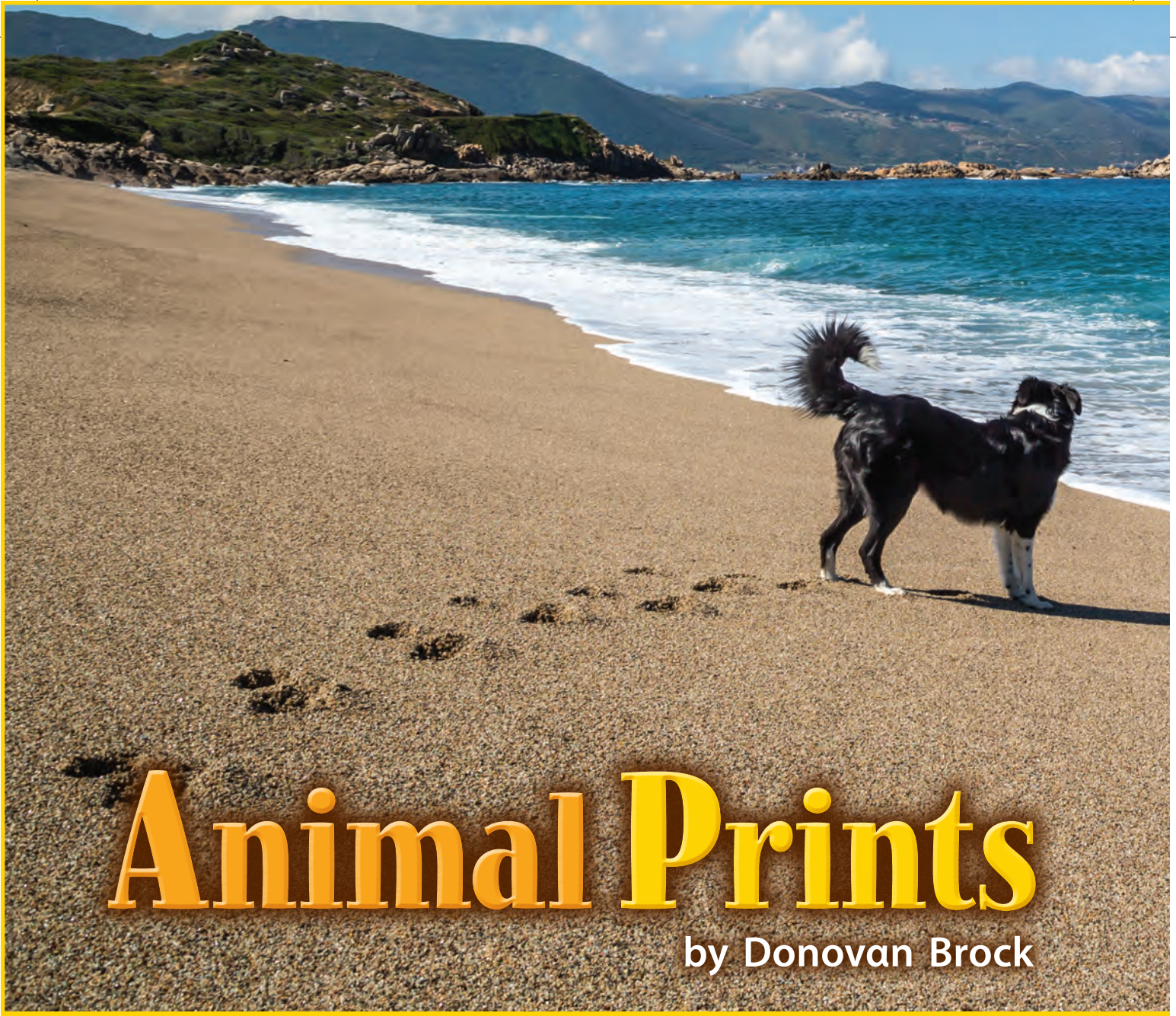


Prints in the Sand

1. I like the **sea**.
2. I like the **sound** of the waves.
3. But the **light** can **hurt** my eyes!
4. Do you see the **funny** prints in the sand?
5. What do they **mean**?

What animal made the prints?





Animal Prints

by Donovan Brock

Find a trail. Look at it up close.
Do you see animal prints?





sand

mud

clay



Animals walk, run, and jump. They can make prints when they move. You can see their prints in sand, mud, and clay.



Some prints are faint. You may need training to track them.

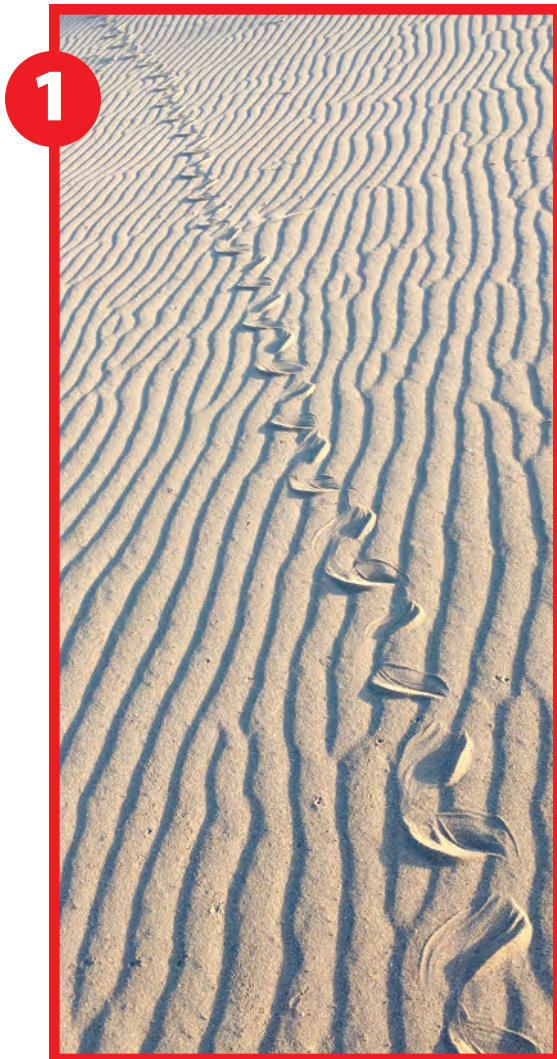


A tracker looks for prints. The size and shape of a print can mean a lot to a trained tracker.





Prints can tell which way an animal moved on its trail. Which way are the feet going?

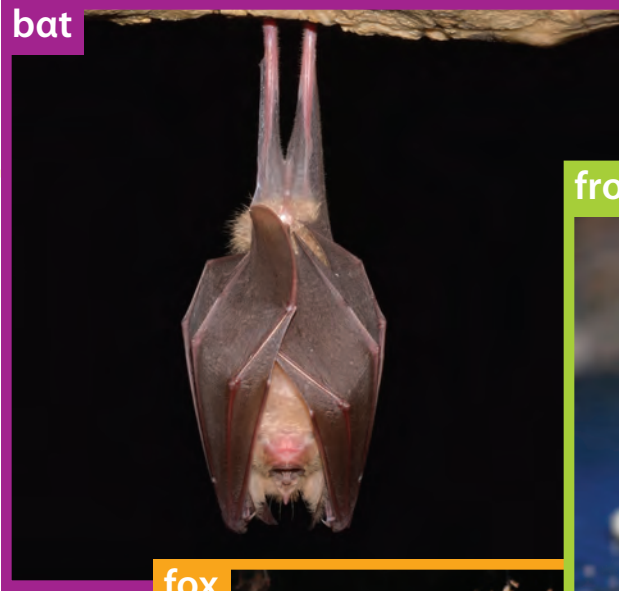


Not all prints are made by an animal with feet. Which prints are made by a snake? Which is a snail's slimy trail?



You can see animal prints best in the day, when it is light. But many animals move more in the dark.

bat



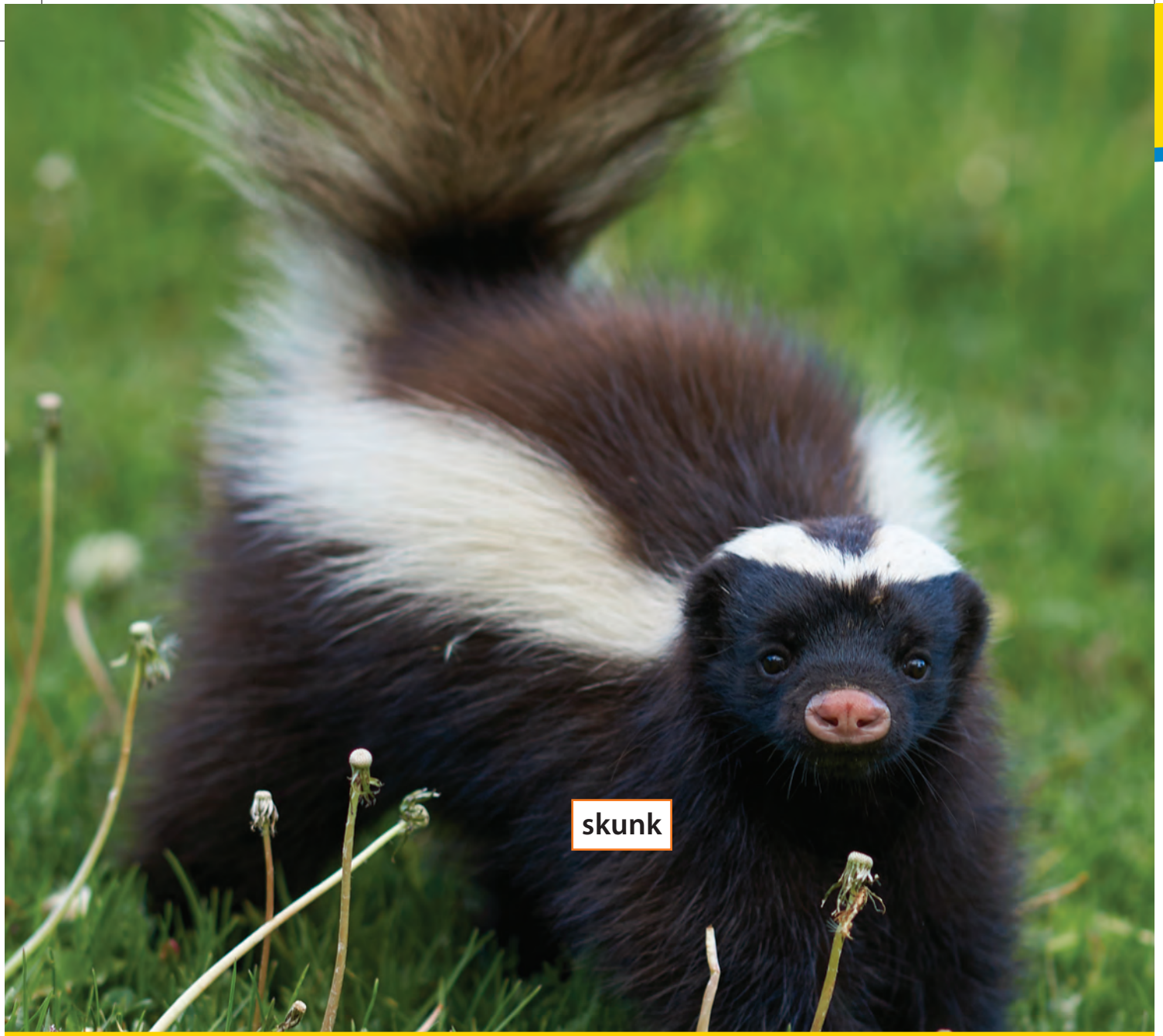
frog



fox



You can use your ears to track animals in the dark. What animal sounds are around you?



You can use your nose, too. But watch out! It is not funny when a skunk sprays. You may not want to track a skunk at all! ❖

Words with ai, ay

Read these words.

brain clay pail swing way
bush grass sand train

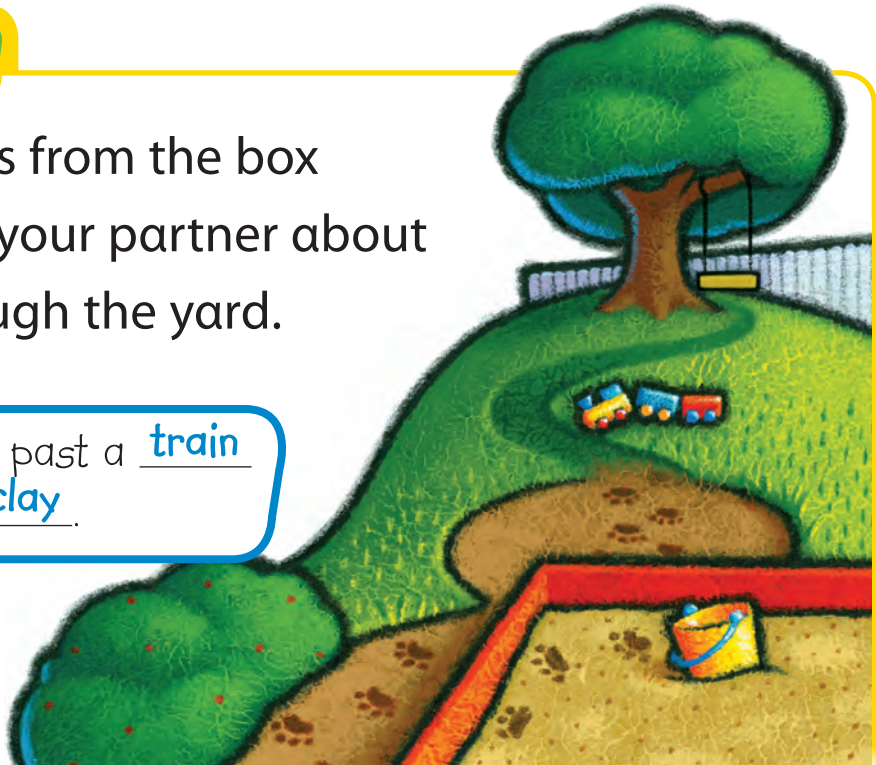
Find the words with
ai and **ay**. Use
letters to build them.

b r a i n

Talk Together

Choose words from the box
above to tell your partner about
the trail through the yard.

The trail goes past a train
and through clay.









Contractions

Look at the pictures. See how contractions are made. Read the words.

I am → I 'm → I'm


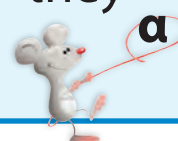


she will → she 'll → she'll



She'll be home soon.

they are → they 're → they're



They're having fun.

Practice High Frequency Words

High Frequency Words

funny

hurt

light

mean

sea

sound

Key Words

Look at the picture.

Read the sentences.



A Funny Fish

1. This **funny** flat fish lives in the **sea**.
2. There is not much **light** or **sound** where it swims.
3. It is a harmless fish.
This **means** it won't **hurt** you.

What does
harmless mean?



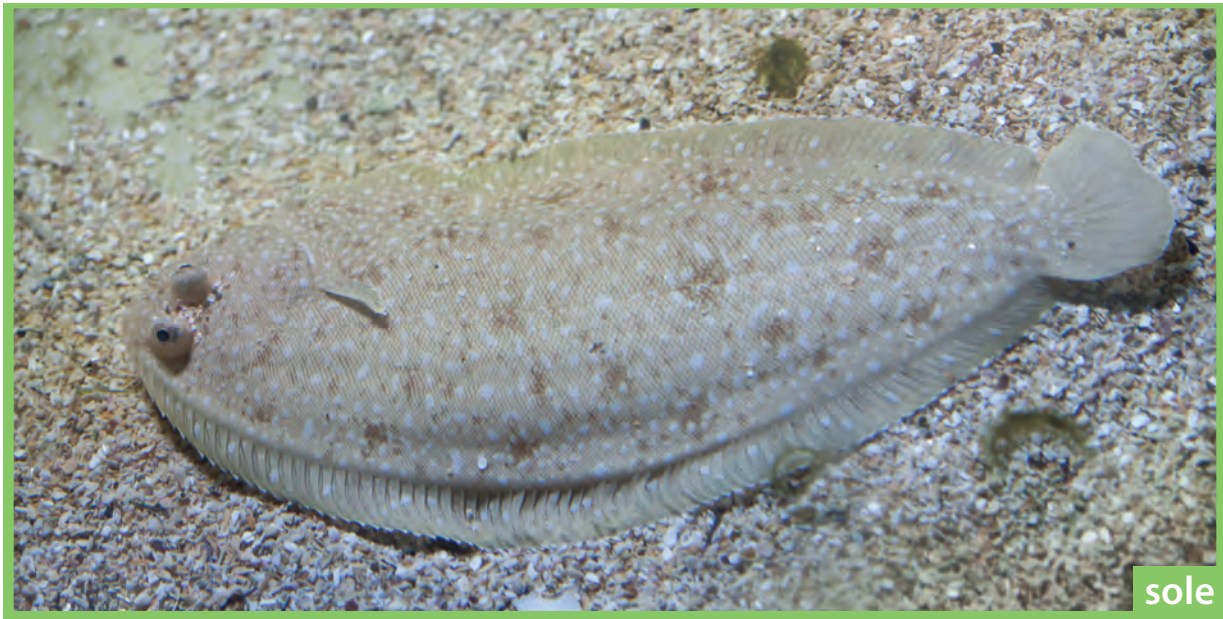
A Fun Fact

by Deanne W. Kells



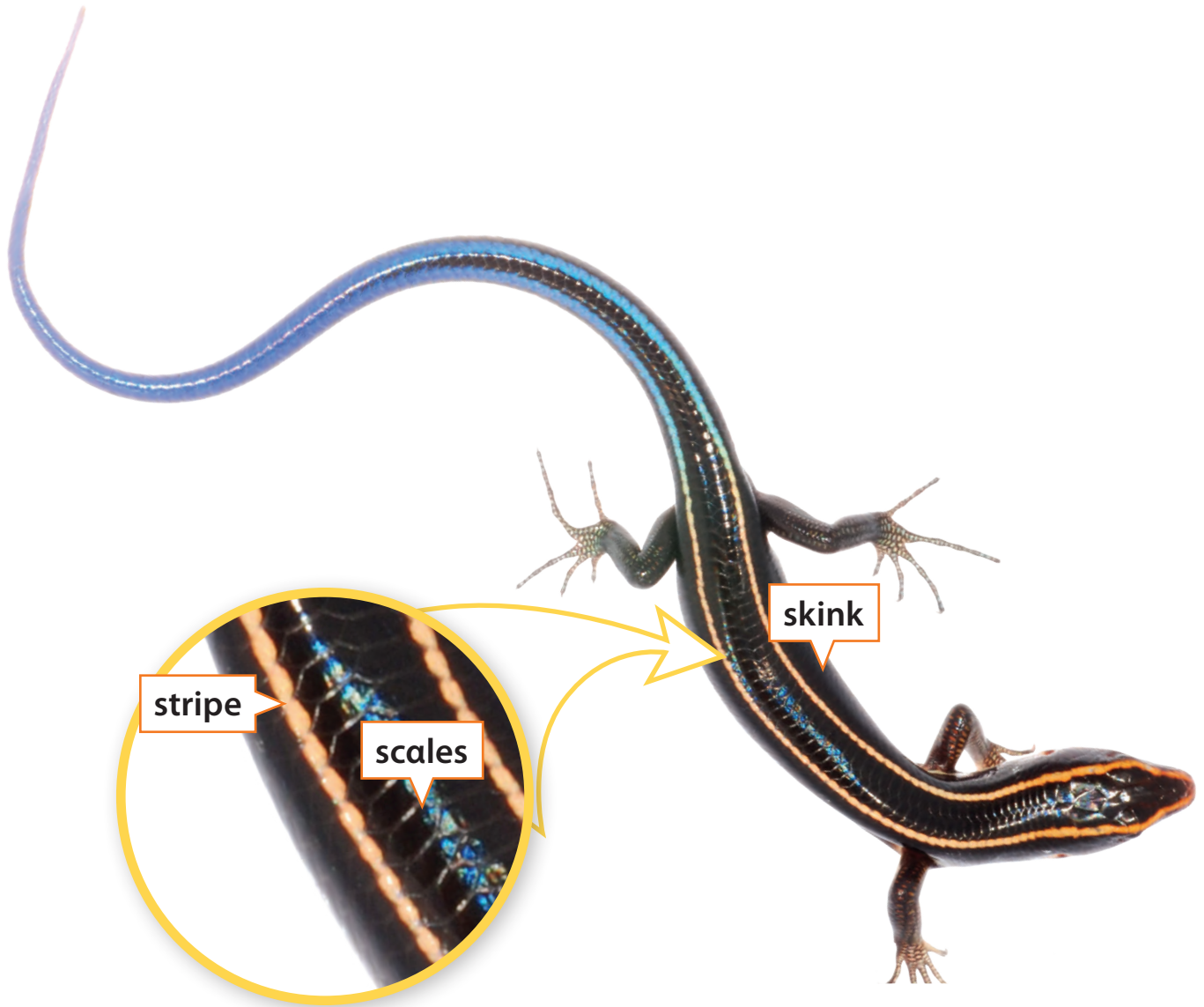
I've got a fun fact. Some animals have names that have almost the same sounds. Yet the two animals are not the same at all!

I'll show you what I mean. We'll start with the sole and the mole.

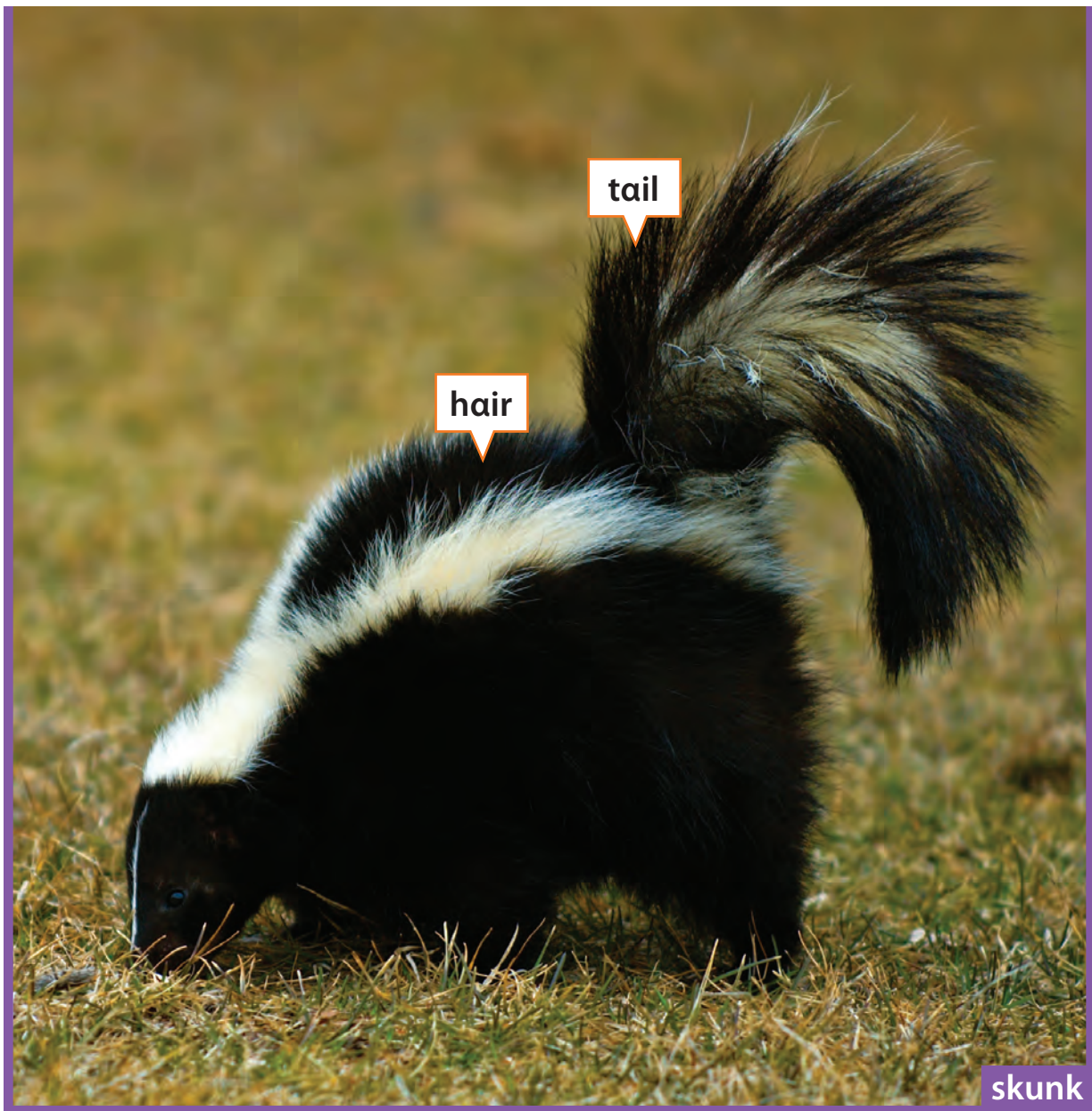


A sole is a flat fish. It swims under water in the sea.

A mole lives under the ground.



Look at the skink and the skunk.
They're both striped. But the skink has
scales, and the skunk has hair.



If you grab the skink's tail, it'll snap off! This will not hurt the skink.

If the skunk lifts its tail, run! It is not funny to get hit with skunk spray.



Look at the cat and the bat. They do not need a lot of light to see well.



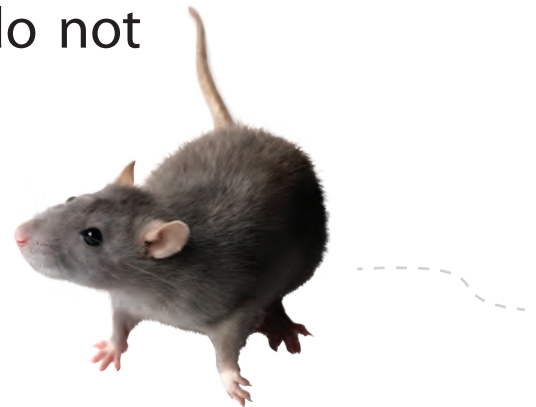


The cat will run to catch mice. But the bat can fly! It'll snap up bugs.





Look at the rat and the ram. A rat is quite small. A rat can bite. So do not get close to a rat.





A ram is quite big. Look at his horns. He'll use them to keep other male rams far from him. He will not hurt you.



hog



ox



Here are some others. I'm going to give you hints. What's the missing name? ❖

hog and _____

ox and _____

Contractions

Read these words.

he'll they'll drinks you've
she'll milk cake fish

Find the contractions.

Use letters to build them.

h e ' l l

Talk Together

Use the pictures and words from the box above to tell your partner about the cats.

They'll get drinks.

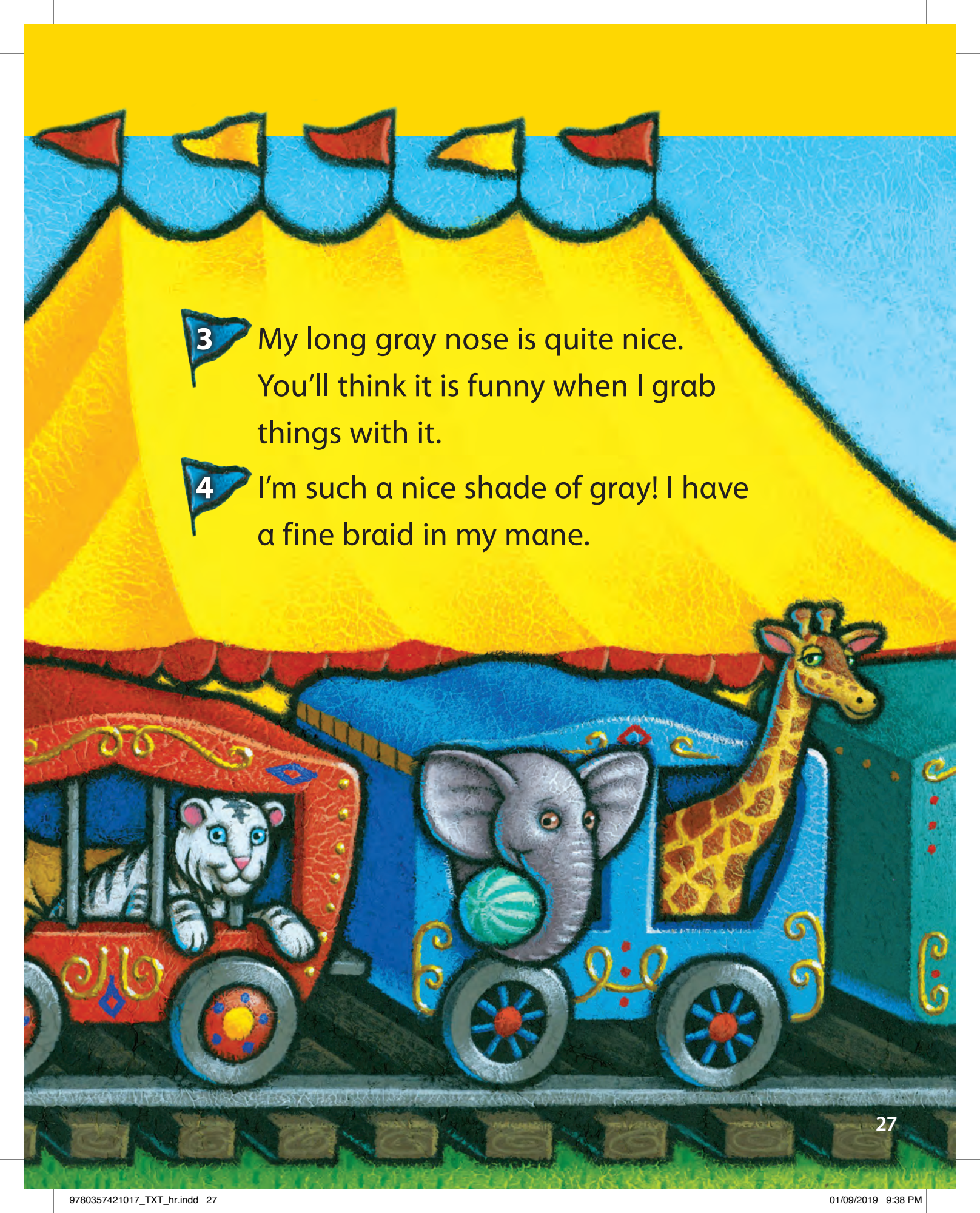


Animal Train

The circus animals are vain. They like to brag!
Take turns reading their words with a partner.
Match them to the animals.

- 1 My pretty eyes are the color of the sea. Too much light can hurt them.
- 2 You'll like the paint on my nails. They match my pink hat!





3 My long gray nose is quite nice.
You'll think it is funny when I grab
things with it.

4 I'm such a nice shade of gray! I have
a fine braid in my mane.

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