**A Mud Mess**

Ted sat at the pond and filled a big pot with mud. Ted’s hands dug in the wet dirt. Drops of mud fell off his hands. Then Ted set a lid on top of the pot and left.

When Ted came back, the lid was not there. How did the lid get lost? Is it a trick? Ted spotted mud tracks in the grass and followed them. The tracks ended back at the pond. Ted saw the pot lid. The lid did a big hop! Ted jumped back. He had a plan. Ted set his hand on top of the lid and went to pick it up. A frog with mud on it hopped past Ted. Ted ran and caught the frog and held it in his hands.

“Hi,” grinned Ted. “Let’s make a mud mess!”

**The Missing Pug**

Kim has a pet pug named Pat. Pat the pug naps in his snug rug by Kim’s bed. Kim is fit. She will not nap. Kim will jog in the lot. Kim has a fun run but misses Pat. She flops in bed for a nap.

Pat is not on his rug. Pat is missing! Did Pat run after a cat?

Kim is suspicious. Where is Pat? Kim will panic if she does not find him. Crash! Oh, no! A cat must be in the can. Or is it Pat in the can? Pat has pulled his rug to the can and is as snug as a bug.

“Bad pug,” scolds Kim.

Pat gives Kim a big wet kiss. Kim is miffed but cannot help but grin.

**Activity**

Circle all of the words that have a short a sound.