

STORY 41

*words we know*

earth learn heard

champion touch thought

because caught engine

manager imagine used

blue juice music

sister brother mother

played called minutes

actually finally Timothy

wouldn't couldn't shouldn't

pointing waiting something

STORY 41

*new sounds*

u-e as in cute

ue as in blue

g as in cage

Look through the story. Find some words with the “u-e” sound, and say them aloud. Then do the same for the “ue” and “g” words.

*special words*

old-fashioned brought two  
early metres country minute  
Melbourne towards caused

Learn how to say each special word.  
See if you can find each one in the story.  
Then you are ready to read the story.

FITZROY READERS STORY NUMBER 41

# Timothy Comes to Stay



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Susan and Luke were sister and brother. Susan was shorter and fatter and Luke was taller and thinner. Luke played the flute and Susan sang. They lived in Melbourne in a cute little old-fashioned brick house.

Their best friend was Timothy Blue - Tim for short. Tim actually had ginger hair but for some reason everyone called him Mr Blue.



Tim was shorter than Sue and thinner than Luke. He had gone to live in the country.

Sometimes Sue and her brother missed Tim very much. They would feel very sad because, like everyone, they want to be close to the ones they love.



Then, one day in June, the postman brought them a letter from Timothy Blue.



They were very excited. Sue kept pointing at the page. It said that at twelve o'clock tomorrow, Tim was coming to visit them for two days. They danced around the kitchen and clapped hands. Sue jumped and Luke laughed.

The next day, the day of the visit, they woke up very early. There were six hours to wait!



Luke played a tune on his flute. They couldn't wait. But the later it got, the better they felt.



Then at last it was twelve o'clock. They went to the front gate and looked up and down the road. No Tim.



Fifteen minutes later, still no Tim. Now they started to feel worried.



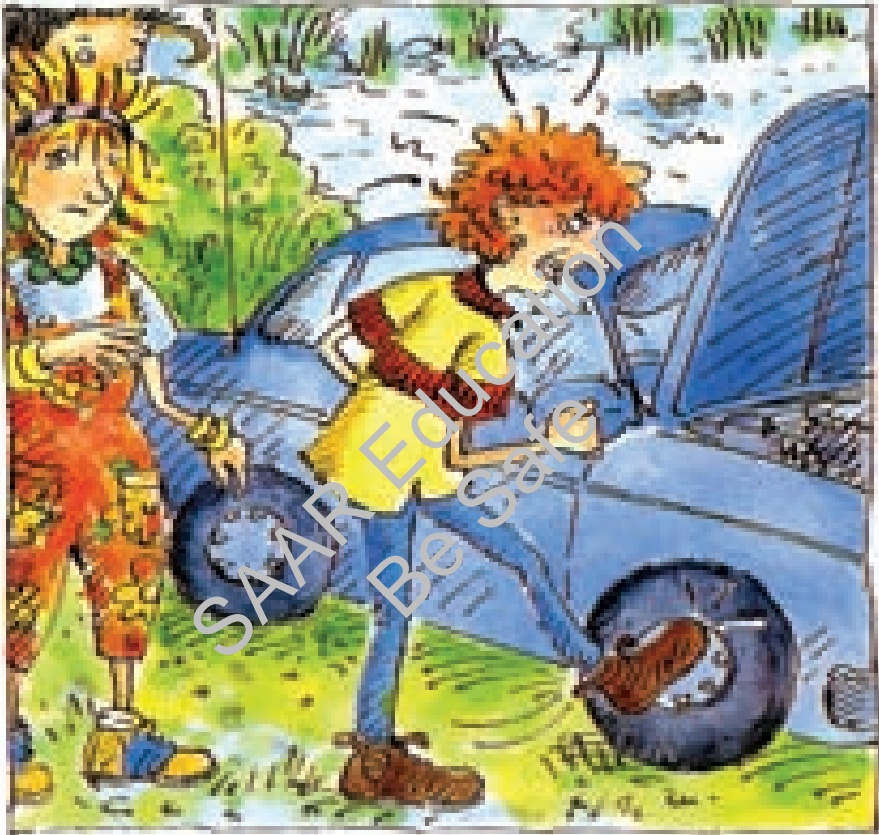
At one o'clock, Sue said, "Something must be wrong. Tim always does what he says. He would not change his plans without telling us." "That's true," said Luke. "Let's go to the country in our car to find him."

This idea made Sue feel better. They hopped into their orange car and headed along the road towards Tim's place in the country.



After driving twenty-nine kilometres, they found Timothy Blue stopped near a river.

The bonnet of Tim's car was open and Tim was looking inside.



He hadn't seen his friends arrive. He was angry. Tim kicked the car and yelled at it, "You horrible pile of junk!"

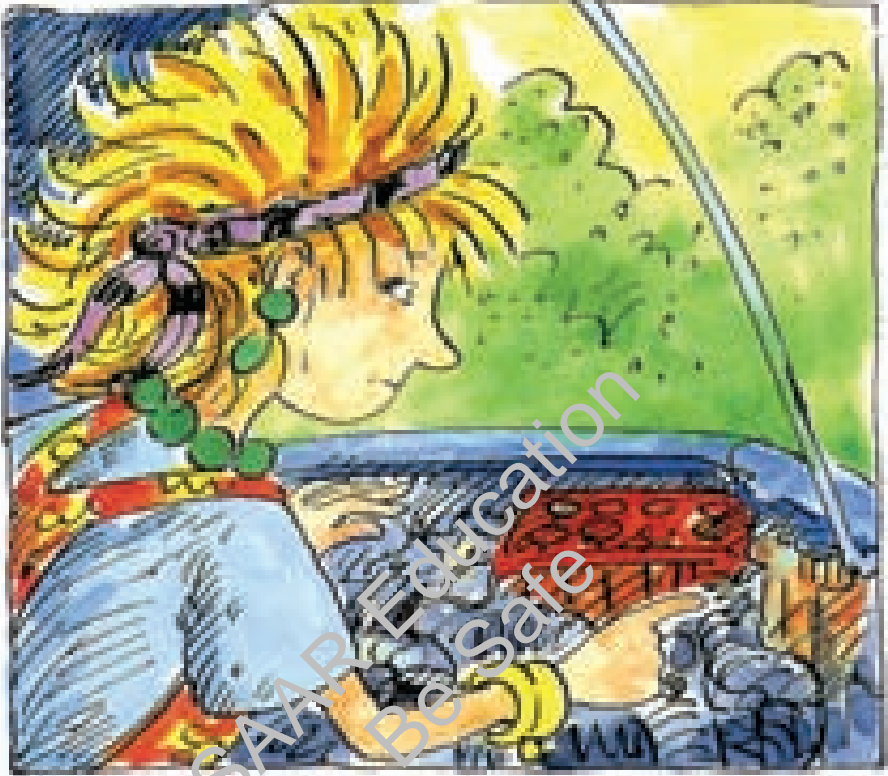


Sue and Luke had never seen Tim in a rage. He was very upset that his plans had gone wrong. He knew his friends would be waiting - and worried. Tim cared about how people felt.

You should have seen Timothy's face change when he saw Sue and Luke. He felt so much better right away.



They all started talking at once, each saying how worried they had been.



Finally, things settled down and Sue asked, "What's wrong with your car?"

"I haven't a clue," said Tim.

"Let me see, sometimes I can fix cars," said Sue, peering under the bonnet.

"I sure hope you can," said Tim, getting out of Sue's way.

After only two minutes, she turned and smiled and said, "You're out of petrol." Tim blushed. He didn't want his friends to think that he was so stupid that he didn't know that cars needed petrol!



In the excitement of going to Melbourne, Tim had simply forgotten to fill up his tank.



“We have a can of petrol in our car,” said Luke, opening the boot.

“But we'll need a tube to pour it through,” said Sue, rolling up some paper.



“Don't breathe the fumes,” said Tim, worried that he had caused all this trouble. He could smell the fumes two metres away.

Soon they all arrived in Melbourne. Now the three friends were feeling marvellous. Their worries were over.



They ran into the house and made a huge pot of tea. They were so glad that at last they would have two days together.

THE END

STORY 41

*words we've used*

old-fashioned    two    metres  
brought    thought    Melbourne  
early    earth    heard  
towards    warm    minute  
caused    because    caught  
country    touch    great

*some new words*

June    super    purely  
glue    wage    badge  
gentle    judge    strange

## STORY 41

### *teacher's page*

*teacher, information from this page may be shared with students when you feel they are ready for it*

There are some *very special words* that form a small family of words. They share the same spelling and sound pattern, for example **come & some**. When teaching the spelling of *very special words*, it helps to present them in their *small families* where these exist.

If a family of *very special* words were very large, they would not be *very special*! They would be *not-so-special* words. That is, you would have discovered an *extra sound*.

Another example of a small family of *very special words* is the family **could, should & would**. This family is too small for **ould** to be taught as an *extra sound*. It is more efficient to teach such a small set of words as a *small family* of *special words*.

Here are some other examples of small families of special words:

**walk, talk & chalk**  
**our, flour & hour**  
**money & honey**  
**one, none & done**

Do not teach these as a new (extra) sounds. But if they are revised together on the same day, it is easier for students to remember their unusual spellings.