

Bess and Chet

by Rebecca Cronin • illustrated by Zoe Bysal

Elizabeth Franco and Angela Báez, Series Editors

WARM UP

Activate phonics knowledge by coaching readers to decode words in isolation.

“Sound out the words and read them!”

cat	chat	hip	chip	in	inch
-----	------	-----	------	----	------

INTRODUCE THE BOOK

Share a gist of the story and highlight any story words.

“This is the first book in a new series about two fairies.” Show the cover and the title. “It’s called *Bess and Chet*. Bess is the fairy with flowers in her hair, and Chet has a leaf hat.” Turn to page 14 and point to the word *fairy*. “This is the word *fairy*. Read it with me, *fairy*. Bess and Chet secretly care for Miss Beck’s garden.” Turn to page 2 and point to the word *garden*. “This is the word *garden*. Read it with me, *garden*. Being a garden fairy is hard work! Luckily, they have magic. All it takes is a wink and a nod!” Turn to page 10 and point to the word *wink*. “This is the word *wink*. Read it with me, *wink*.”

Invite readers to preview the text. Then, coach them as they read independently.

“Let’s take a sneak peek to think about what might happen in this story.” Study the cover, read the back blurb, and flip through the first few pages. Invite readers to say what they notice and to share ideas or predictions about the story. “You’re noticing the big mess in the garden. Oh no! How will they fix this? Let’s read and find out!” Distribute copies of the text. Then, listen in and coach as needed.

TALK ABOUT THE BOOK

After reading, engage in a conversation to support text-based comprehension.


Invite readers to share ideas and use supporting details from the text.

Ask questions like:

- What happened in the story? Retell the events in order.
- What caused the mess in the garden?
- How did Chet react when he saw the mess? How did Bess react?
- How do Bess and Chet feel at the end of the story? What makes you think that?



The sun is not up,
but Bess and Chet
get up for the day.



Let's check on
Miss Beck's garden!

Miss Beck is in bed.
She will not see
Bess and Chet.

Chet hops on the deck.



He can see the chick
and the hen.

“Just look at this!” yells Chet.
“The garden is such a mess.
I am mad, mad, mad!”





“Miss Beck can’t see it like this!”
sobs Bess.

“I am sad, sad, sad.”

Bess and Chet see tracks
in the mud.



“A buck got in!” Chet gasps.

“Did he chomp the buds?”
asks Chet.



“Yes,” sobs Bess.
“Such a big mess.”

“Did he chip the pots?”
Bess frets.



“He did!” yells Chet.
“I see a chip in this pot.”

Bess and Chet check the moss.
It is off the rock.



“He got on this rock
to chomp the figs,”
Bess tells Chet.

“Chin up, Bess,” Chet grins.

“We can fix this.”



Wink, wink, nod. . .

a bag to pick up the mess!

“I will fix the chips in the pots!”
Bess says.



Wink, wink, nod. . .
the pot is set!

Chet zigs and zags.
Wink, wink, nod. . .
sticks in a stack!



Wink, wink, nod. . .
figs on the branch!



Bess flits and flaps.

Wink, wink, nod. . .

moss on the rocks!




Wink, wink, nod. . .

buds on the stems!

Bess and Chet spin and chant,
“Fairy chums! Fairy chums!”





“Miss Beck will be up
in a bit,” Bess says.

Chet nods.

“She will be glad
to see the garden.”



Fairy chums! Fairy chums!

Bess and Chet skip off to bed.

Letter-Sound Correspondences

- all consonants and all short vowels
- tt, nn, ss, dd, ff, ll, zz
- –s
- blends
- ck, **ch**

High-Frequency Words

me, a, the, I, like, my, look, see, here, is, this, to, do, we, be, was, she, he, how, you, day, play, say, says, for

Moonlit Mountain Readers
RWPN, LLC
P.O. Box 26561
Prescott Valley, AZ 86312

Copyright © 2025

No part of this publication may be reproduced, distributed, or transmitted in any form or by any means, including photocopying, recording, or other electronic or mechanical methods, without the prior written permission of the publisher, except as permitted by U.S. copyright law.

Cataloging-in-Publication data is on file with the Library of Congress.

ISBN-13: 9798202133268 (paperback)



Miss Beck's garden
is such a mess!
Can Chet and Bess fix it?

Digraphs

- 1 **Bess and Chet**
- 2 The Sad Bat
- 3 Is That a Fox?!
- 4 The Fish Pond
- 5 Chet's Wish
- 6 A Song for Chet
- 7 My Chick is Lost!
- 8 Stell and Ted

ch



Mossflower
PRESS

