

SAXON
Phonics and Spelling
2

Phonetic Concepts Practiced

g = /j/ (large, gems)
 dge (bridge)

Midge's Bridge



written by Cynthia Benjamin
 illustrated by Laura Rader

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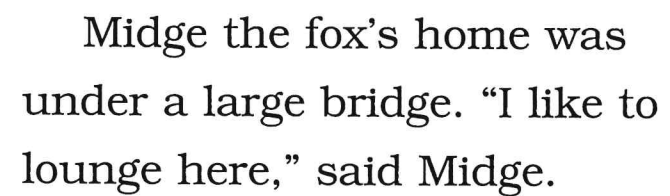


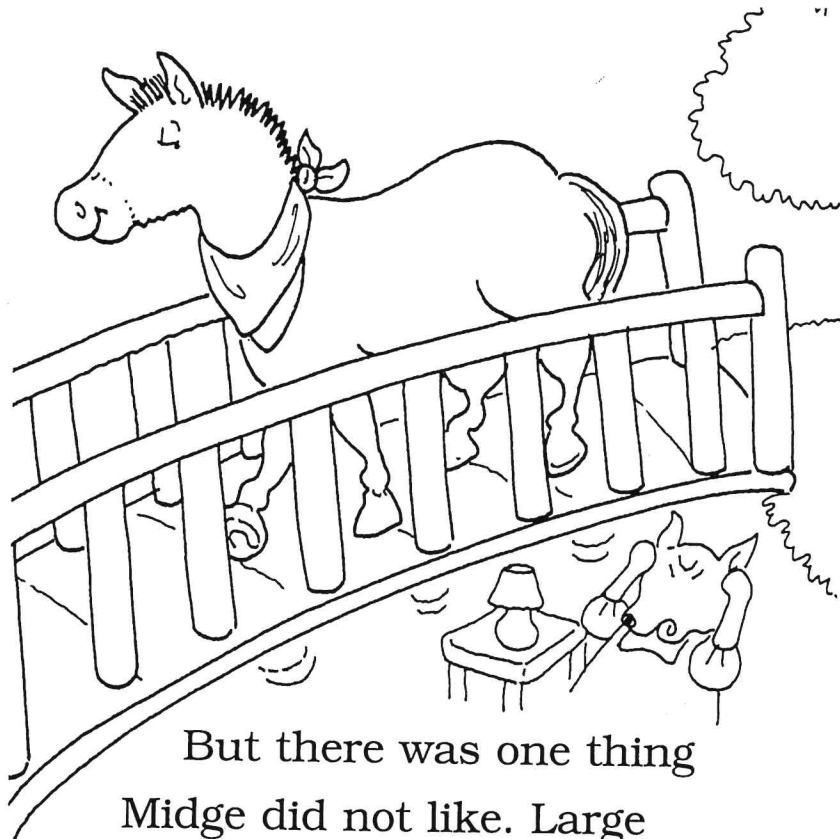
Grade 2, Decodable Reader 14
 First used in Lesson 77

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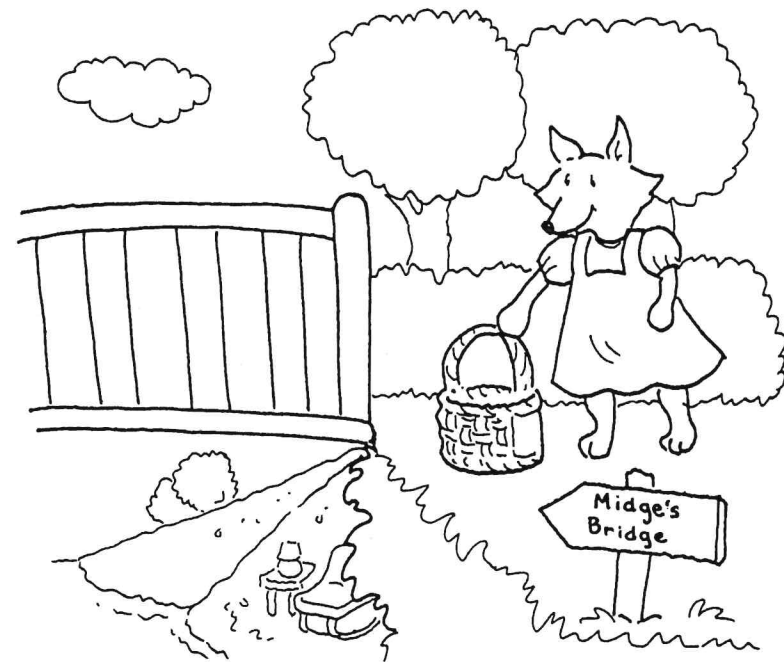
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But there was one thing Midge did not like. Large animals would trudge over the bridge. Midge did not like their loud clop-clop sounds.



Midge came up with a crafty plan.

"I will ask every animal to pay a toll," she said. "Soon I will be rich!"



"I'll write each animal's name on this large page," said Midge. "Then I'll charge them a toll."



Ginny the hedgehog ducked under her hedge. She wanted to cross the bridge.

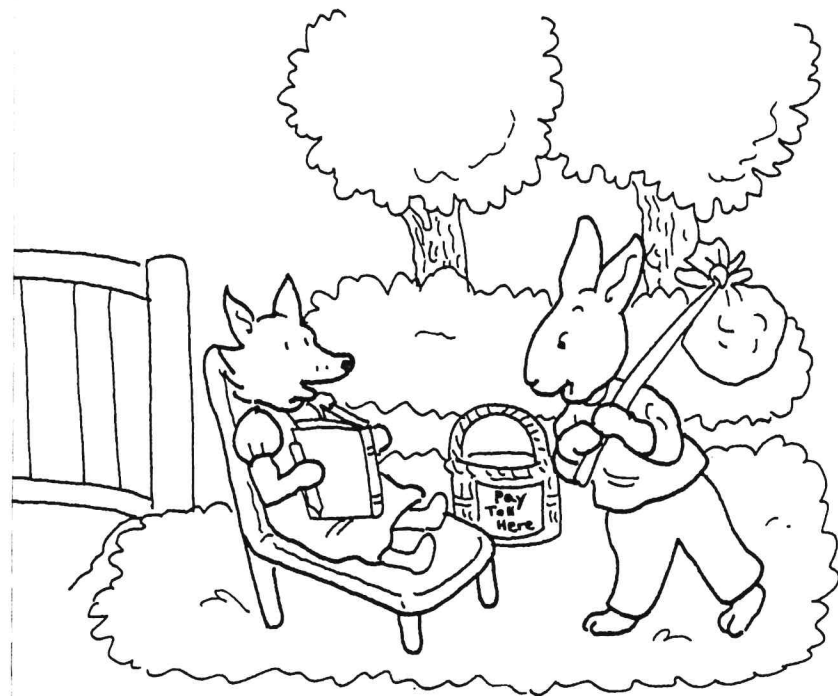
"You must pay me a toll first!" said Midge.

"A toll?" said Ginny. "This is an outrage!"



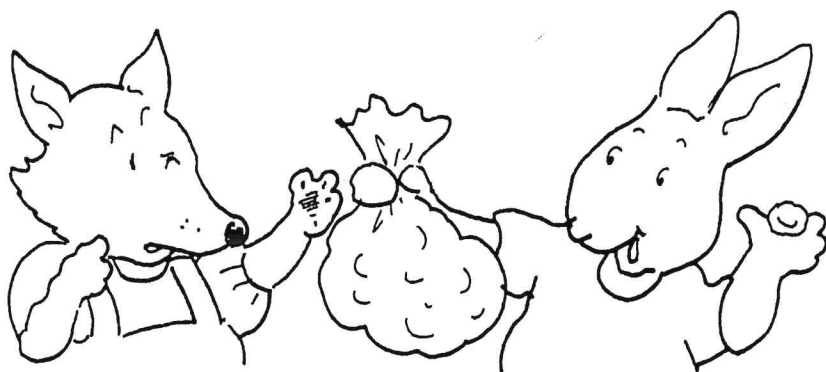
Ginny told her friends what Midge had said.

"We must put a stop to this," said Ralph the rabbit. "I know what I can do!"



At the bridge Ralph asked, "May I cross? I have a sack full of priceless gems."

Midge said, "You can hand me the gems as a toll."



“That gem looks like a plain old stone to me,” said Midge. But Ralph insisted it was one of a kind and handed Midge the sack. Midge let Ralph and his friends cross the bridge.

And that is how a smart rabbit tricked a greedy fox!

The End

Understanding the Story

Questions are to be read aloud by a teacher or parent.

1. Where does Midge the fox live?
2. Why must each animal pay a toll?
3. Who refuses to pay?
4. What does Midge want to believe is in the sack?

Answers: 1. under a large bridge 2. to cross the bridge 3. Ginny the hedgehog 4. priceless gems

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