

Who's Playing Up There?





We open our eyes wide. Above us, a human figure floats in the clouds!

It is a man in the sky. He waves and smiles down at us. Will he stick around or drift away?

The clouds **begin** to move. We lie in the grass and watch them like a **private** show.

Boy props up on his **stomach**. Girl sits and **gazes** with wonder. I stretch out on my back. We want to see if the man in the clouds will come back.





He is back! And he has a friend with him now. A lady and the man leap and dance among the clouds, as if music fills the sky.

I raise my arm and do a jig too. Even the kitten at my feet seems to follow along.

The cloud **figures** stop dancing.
They stand still, tip back their
heads, and **open** their mouths
wide. No sound reaches us, but
you can tell they are singing a
silly song.

Boy sits up and points at the
sky. 'They sing so loud up
there!' he yells.

The **tiny** birds tilt their heads,
as if **even** they want to hear it.





A whole band **begins** to play in the clouds!

Figures with drums and horns smile down at us.

We dance to the beat with our arms up high.

The **music** makes us want to jump and spin. **Even** the **tiny** creatures around us pop up to watch.



The cloud drummer beats the drum louder, and the sky turns a dark purple color.

'I think the band is angry,' says Girl, as fat raindrops hit her open hand. Boy points above, but even he begins to shake.



We run for the open door of our house. A warm golden glow pours out to welcome us home.

It is too wet to stay outside. Our parents will be glad to see us. We dash along in the rain as fast as we can.



Time to relax and dry off!
We kick our wet shoes off
and leave them by the door.
We each grab a towel and
begin to dance around. Boy
hugs his orange towel close
to his chest. Girl twirls a
red one over her head. I
wave my blue one like a
banner. Getting dry has
never been this fun.





We tell Mom and Dad
about the music in the
sky. We open our
mouths wide and sing
just like the cloud men
did.

Dad grins with delight.
Mom claps her hands
and smiles. They both
wish they had seen the
show!

We can be a band, just like the figures in the sky! Dad grabs his drum and **begins** to play a **solid** beat.

Boy bangs on a pot. Girl hits a pan with one arm raised. Mom and I leap and dance **around** them. Our **music** fills the whole room.





Later, the house is quiet and the moon sits over our window. I see silver clouds, silent and still. 'Goodnight,' I whisper.

Then I get into bed next to Boy and Girl, and we close our eyes.



Who's Playing Up There?

Look up! Can you spot a human figure dancing in the clouds? When a cloud man waves down at three curious kids, a whole sky-band joins in with music, jigs, and opera singing. But what happens when the drummer pounds too hard and the sky turns dark? Will the children make it home before the storm? This decodable reader practices 2-syllable open words such as 'human,' 'music,' 'lady,' and 'tiny.'

Reading Skills: Open syllable

about, above, along, among, around, began, begin, begins, color, creatures, drying, even, figure, figures, gazes, human, into, lady, later, music, open, opened, orange, over, private, quiet, relax, silent, solid, stomach, tiny

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