C. J. McGuire BOOKS

Words worth trying.

Words from the story, ready for everyday adventures. Pick one or two. Read together, ask questions, then talk, act, draw or make a sentence.

legend

p. 5

An old story passed down over time. It might be true... or not.

Try it: The legend told of a giant who slept under the hill.

Your turn: Imagine the title of a legend about your neighborhood.

peculiar

p. 13

Strange. Odd. Not the way things usually are.

Try it: A purple carrot would be a peculiar bookmark.

Your turn: Invent another peculiar bookmark.

troubling

p. 13

Making you feel worried. Time to investigate!

Try it: The drip from the ceiling was troubling.

Your turn: Who could you tell about a troubling drip?

gnaw

p. 14

To chew again and again. Like Dad with ribs.

Try it: The puppy likes to gnaw on her chew toy.

Your turn: Pretend to gnaw a crunchy carrot. What might a rabbit gnaw?

suspicious

p. 15

Making you think something might be wrong. Hmm...

Try it: I was suspicious when the empty biscuit tin rattled.

Your turn: What else could be making that rattle?

shedding

p. 18

Losing hair or fur. Dogs do it. Dads too?

Try it: Our dog was shedding, so we brushed out the loose fur.

Your turn: What might you notice when a pet is shedding?

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Words worth trying.

A good word can make an idea clearer, a story funnier or a question more interesting. Which of these will you try today?

qualified

p. 21

Having the skills or knowledge needed to do something. Plunger training? Check.

Try it: A trained swimming teacher is qualified to teach swimming.

Your turn: What would help someone become qualified for a job?

sacrifices

p. 27

Things you give up for something important. Even chocolate syrup.

Try it: Sharing the last biscuit was one of our picnic sacrifices.

Your turn: What could you give up to help a friend?

protested

p. 27

Said that something was wrong or unfair. “But our ice cream!”

Try it: "But it is my turn!" I protested.

Your turn: Try a pretend protest in a firm, quiet voice.

puzzled

p. 30

Not sure what’s going on.

Try it: I was puzzled when my sock turned up in the toy box.

Your turn: Show a puzzled face. What might puzzle you?

squirming

p. 32

Wiggling and twisting, like something caught in a net.

Try it: The puppy was squirming while I tried to dry her paws.

Your turn: Show squirming with just your fingers.

demanded

p. 33

Asked firmly and expected an answer or action. Right NOW!

Try it: "Who moved my crown?" the pretend queen demanded.

Your turn: Try the line as a question, then as a demand.

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