

God Heard Their Cries

Helpful Hints



AR words included in text: (in the order in which they appear)

large	hard	marsh	dark
alarm	arm	yard	part
hark	snarl	harp	
are	harm	spark	oddball AR words:
march	tar	star	war
harsh	far	scar	care

Sight Words Included in Text (in ABC order):

about	because	had	made	one	she	they	water
after	but	he	many	our	so	this	went
all	day	his	my	out	soon	time	were
am	did	in	new	over	that	to	what
and	do	into	not	people	the	too	when
any	down	it	number	put	their	us	who
are	for	know	of	said	them	very	with
as	get	long	old	saw	then	want	you
baby	go	look	on	see	there	was	

Vocabulary Words-These may be words that you need to discuss the meaning of before reading: *Israelites, Egyptians, harsh, marsh, alarm, harp*

This text was written at a beginning of first grade level (based on the phonics skills and sight words chosen). The length of the text may be longer than your child is accustomed to. My advice is to read the text TO your child on the first day. On subsequent readings, you can offer to share the reading, taking turns. Gradually release the responsibility and limit support as it is re-read.

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God Heard Their Cries

from Exodus 1-4



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All of Joseph's family went to Egypt. After a long time, Joseph and his brothers died because they were very old. The new king did not know about Joseph, but he saw that Joseph's family was getting *very* large.

He was alarmed and said, "Hark!
There are too many Israelites in
our land! They may start marching
against us in war!"



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So the king put men over them
who were very harsh. The Israelites
had to do hard work that made
their arms get tired. But their
numbers got larger!



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This made the king very, *very* mad.
"Kill all the baby boys!" he said
with a snarl. "Toss them in the
water!"

Pharaoh did not care about the
people, but God did. God's people
cried out to Him and He heard
their cries.

One of the Israelite women had a baby boy. She did not want him to be harmed, so she made a basket with tar for him and put it into the water.



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The basket did not get very far. The Pharaoh's daughter went down to the marsh and saw the baby. She took him out and named him Moses.

When Moses got older, he went into the yard and saw an Egyptian being very harsh with one of the Israelites. Moses looked this way and that way. Then, he killed the Egyptian.



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Soon the people harped on Moses, "Are you going to kill us, too?" So Moses ran fast to get far away.

But God heard the cries of His people. As Moses was looking after his sheep one day, he saw a spark of light in a bush. The bush was soon as bright as a star!



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It was God. He said, "I see my people's scars and hear their cries. They feel they are in the dark. I am sending you to Pharaoh. Tell him to let my people go."



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Moses did not want any part of this plan, but God told him that He would do amazing things for His people!

So, Moses went back to Egypt and told the people what God had said. The people were happy. They knew that God had heard their cries.