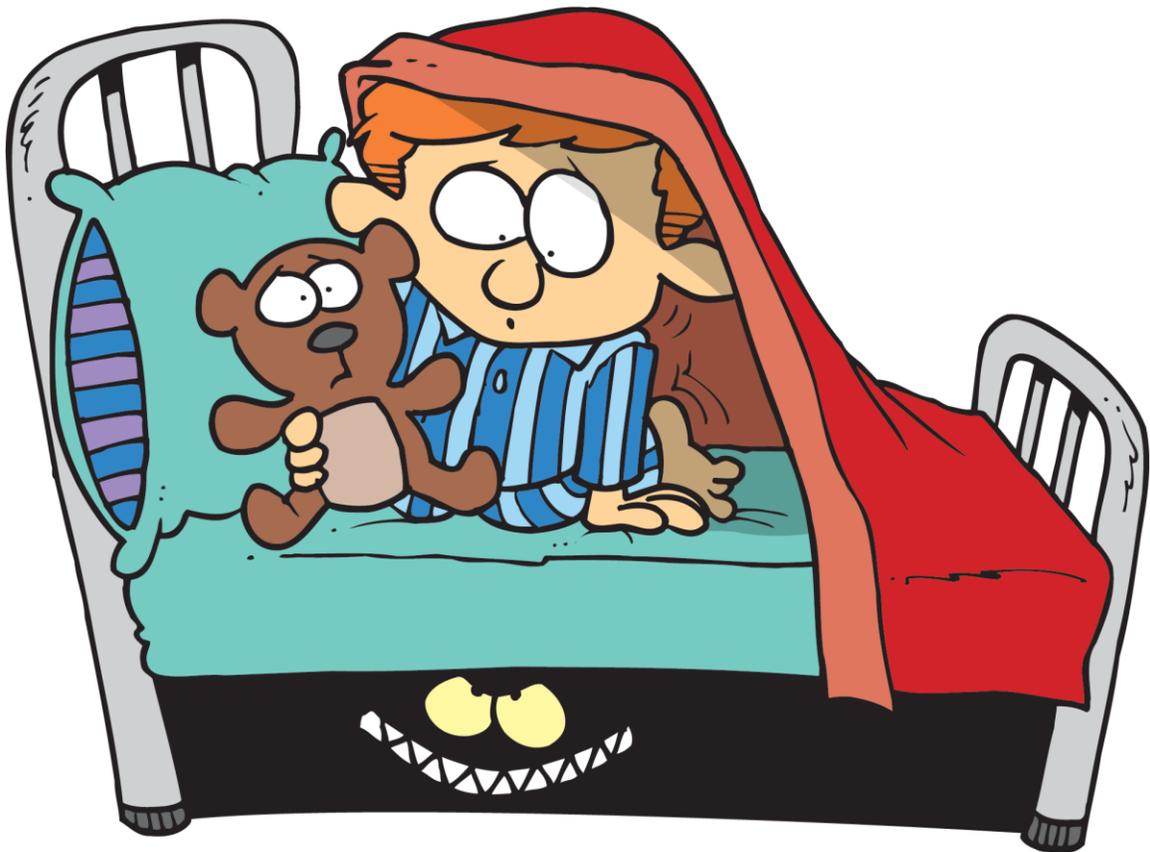


Hey, That's MY Monster!

Fluency Drill



Story by Amanda Noll

Drill developed by Cherry Carl

Illustrations by Ron Leishman

<https://www.teacherspayteachers.com/Store/Ron-Leishman-Digital-Toonage>

Hey, That's MY Monster!

Tonight, when I looked under the bed for	8
my monster, I found this note instead.	15
“So long, kid. Gotta go. Someone needs me	23
more than you do. Gabe”	28
“What? Gabe was MY monster! Nobody	34
needed him more than me!”	39
But someone sure DID need a monster -	46
my little sister Emma. Now that Emma slept in a	56
toddler bed, she liked to climb out, roam the	65
house, and play noisy games at night.	72
I knew a monster would keep her in bed	81
so she could fall asleep. But not MY monster! I	91
had to get Gabe back.	96
I tiptoed across the hall to Emma's room.	104
She wasn't even there.	108
But Gabe was! I gulped, zoomed across	115

the carpet, and leaped onto Emma's bed before	123
Gabe could grab my toes.	128
"Gabe," I whispered. "Please go back to	135
our room. <u>I'll</u> get Emma to sleep."	142
"You!" he snorted. "You're going to get	149
her to sleep? Ha! That's a good one! But you	159
know what? I like you, kid, so I'll give you three	170
chances. If she's not asleep, I'll be back!"	178
And Gabe was gone.	182
Just then Emma toddled into the room.	189
She clearly needed a monster. Maybe she didn't	197
know how to get one. But I did.	205
"Hey, Emma," I said. "Let's play. Can you	213
knock on the floor?"	217
Emma knocked - with a dinosaur. It	223
worked. I heard some creaking under Emma's	230
bed. Then something sniffled. It squelched and	237
dripped.	238

So far so <i>good</i> , I thought. <i>This</i> monster	246
sounds scary enough for Emma. But Emma kept	254
on playing.	256
A slime-covered monster slid out. It	263
oozed toward Emma.	266
"Icky!" she laughed, wiping one of the	273
monster's noses. "Icky! Wipe!"	277
Emma wasn't scared at all!	282
"Excuse me," I said to the mucous	289
monster. "I didn't catch your name."	295
"By dabe is Agatha," she said through	302
stuffed noses. "Tibe for bed, Ebba." Emma	309
giggled and wiped some more.	314
I knew this wouldn't work. "Thanks,	320
Agatha. Nice try. But I think we need a monster	330
with claws."	332
Agatha sniffled, and then she was gone.	339
"Emma," I coaxed again, "knock, knock."	345

She knocked on the floor - with a teapot	353
this time and I heard more creaking. Then a	362
slippery tail slithered out from under the bed.	370
The second monster rasped, "I'm Cynthia."	376
<i>Much better</i> , I thought when I saw the jagged	385
claws. Cynthia might be the perfect monster	392
for Emma.	394
But Emma blinked and said, "Pretty!"	400
Then she decorated Cynthia's tail with	406
bracelets.	407
"Ugh," Cynthia snarled. "I'm not here to	414
play dress up! I'm here to scare you into bed!"	424
Cynthia rattled louder, but Emma danced to the	432
beat.	433
"I'm sorry, Cynthia," I said. This isn't	440
going to work."	443
"Well, I never," she sniffed, and then she	451
was gone.	453

"Cynfia, come back!" Emma demanded, 458
stomping on the floor. Excellent, I thought. 465
Maybe that would summon the perfect monster 472
for Emma. 474

Tentacles swarmed from under the bed, 480
and an icy voice called, "Whooooo . . ." I shrank 488
back in horror, but Emma was enchanted. 495

"Whooooo's out of bed?" The monster 501
continued. "Come to Vla-a-adimir . . ." 505

Emma high-fived one of the tentacles, 512
and the third monster emerged. 517

I already had doubts about this one, but 525
he was my last chance. "Vladimir," I asked, "can 534
you get Emma to sleep?" 539

"Yes-s-s," he hissed, reaching for Emma. 545
"I can GET her!" 549

Emma giggled and hopped over the 555
tentacles like jump ropes. "Oh, no!" I blurted. 563

"She's not supposed to be having fun! This'll never work!"	571
	573
Vlad's tentacles drooped, he slunk under the bed, and he was gone. "Sorry, Vlad . . ." I called.	579
	588
	589
Boy, was I sorry. I was about to lose Gabe forever.	598
	600
Now Emma was coloring. And singing. "Vladimir, blah, blah, Cynfia, ya, ya, Agafa, fa, fa . . ."	606
	614
	615
Gabe must have heard her, because he was back. "That's it, kid," he grunted. "You had your three tries. Now it's MY turn."	622
	631
	638
Emma peered at my hulking, sharp-clawed monster and said, "Fuzzy."	645
	649
"Hey, Gabe!" I cheered. "Emma isn't afraid of you!"	655
	658
"WHAT?!!" Gabe burst out from under	664

the bed and loomed over Emma. Steam spurted 672
from his ears. 675

"Get. Into. Bed!" Gabe thundered. 680

Emma hopped up. But she kept singing. 687

"Fuzzy, fuzzy monster." 690

"Gabe," I said, "Emma's not scare enough 697
to fall asleep. Please, let's go back to our room." 707

"No can do, kid," Gabe growled, "I may 715
not be the perfect monster for Emma, but I'm 724
the best so far. At least she's in bed now. I 735
gotta stay here. You're on your own." 742

I knew Emma needed Gabe, but he was 750
MY monster. How was I ever going to get to 760
sleep without him? 763

Just then, we heard a tiny noise. Hic, hic, 772
hic. 773

Emma froze. Gabe and I peered under 780

the bed.	782
"Stella, what are you doing here?"	788
Gabe asked.	790
"Hi, Gabe," Stella said, tugging on her	797
tutu. "You forgot -hic- your snack. Mama	804
thought -hic- you'd be hungry, so she -hic- sent	813
this."	814
Who knew? Gabe had a little sister, too! I	823
thought Stella's hiccups were cute, but Emma	830
obviously didn't. Stella sure noticed. She	836
tiptoed closer, hiccuping with every step. Hic,	843
hic, hic. From under the covers, Emma	850
squeaked. "Shoo!"	852
"Shoo?" Stella repeated. "Oh, Shoe!	857
That's where toes go. I loooove toes." Stella	865
crept toward Emma's feet.	869
Emma squealed, scrunched in her feet,	875
and giggled, "No toes, no toes!"	881

Gabe laughed, "Stella, it looks like you're the perfect monster for Emma. Now, if you don't mind, you can get her to sleep while *I* get back to what *I* do best."

Stella nodded. "Hic!"

I sighed with relief and switched off Emma's lamp. Then I ran to my room, leaped into bed, and scrunched in my feet so Gabe couldn't get them. I shivered happily.

Emma had Stella. I had Gabe. Everything was back to normal. I shivered again. We'd all be asleep in no time.

Directions:

Set a timer for one minute and read as much of the story as you can, including the title. Stop when the timer goes off and make a mark where you ended. Count and record the number of words you read. Reset the timer and go back to the beginning and read it again, marking the spot where you ended this time. Count and record the total again. Repeat this timed fluency activity four times and you'll be surprised at how much your fluency increases!

Number of words read correctly:

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1

2

3

4