

DECODABLE • 68

Curls that Swirl



Written by Cheryl Ryan • Illustrated by Catalina Rankin

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Curls that Swirl

A Reading A-Z Decodable Book • Word Count: 208



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ELEMENTS USED IN THIS BOOK

New phonic elements r-controlled /u/: er, ir, ur

Words with new phonic element bird, curl, dirt, first, fur, girl, her, hurl, hurt, nerve,

shirt, skirt, smirk, stir, swirl, turn, whirl, whirl

Reviewed phonic elements r-controlled o, a, o

Story Words forever, germ, purple, purse, silk, twirl, urge

New high-frequency word those

Special considerations inflectional endings -ed, -s, -ing, -y; possessive 's;

two-syllable decodable words



Shirl was a small girl who had hair
that curled and swirled and twirled.
It swirled and twirled past her skirt.

Curly that Swirl • R-Controlled /u/

3

h

Shirl's hair was as thick as fur.
The birds used it to make a nest.
They pulled on curl after curl
until her head hurt.





“How dare those birds pull
your curls,” said her mom.
“They have a lot of nerve.”

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At first, Shirli liked having hair that
curled and swirled.
She liked how it whirled and twirled in the air.

9



But her hair got so long that it dragged
in the dirt.

Her hair got full of dirt and germs.

Curly hair • R-Controlled /u/

7

Shirl did not like her dirty hair.
“I have had this hair forever.
I want a new look,” she said.

8





“I will cut my curly locks,”
she said with a smirk.

“I will cut them and hurl them away.”

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9

Then out of the stars came a small fairy.
She urged Shirl not to cut her curly locks.
The fairy said she could turn Shirl's hair into silk.

10





So the fairy stirred and whirred.
She took fairy dust from her purse
and let it fall over Shirl's curls.

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11

Soon the girl with hair that curled
had hair of purple silk.
Her purple hair flowed in the wind.

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