



“long o”
sound

THE ADVENTURES OF DOC LEEDA

Lou the Kangaroo Gets Adopted



Mindy Reese

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An early-reader exploration
into the “long oo” sound

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HIGH NOON BOOKS
NOVATO, CA

How to Use This Book

Use this book to help students learn the “oo,” or “long oo,” sound. To help students retain the information, follow this recommended approach.

Step 1: Read “Doc Leeda’s Lesson of the Day” to students.

Begin by reading aloud “Doc Leeda’s Lesson of the Day,” which explains the color-coded sound that will be used throughout the book.

Step 2: Echo read with students.

Read each page of the story aloud, and then ask students to read it aloud to you. Point to, or have students point to, each word as you read. Say to students:

Remember that highlighted letters make the “oo” sound.

Step 3: Have students read on their own.

Have students read the entire story aloud on their own, lending help as needed. Encourage students to point to each word as they read. Check for understanding with the questions provided after the story.

Doc Leeda's Lesson of the Day

"oo," or "long oo," sound

A **blue** color code is used throughout the book to show words that make the "long oo" sound.

Remember, these spellings may have other sounds in other types of words.

Letter(s) that can make the "long oo" vowel sound	Example words
" <u>oo</u> " in the middle of a word	moon igloo school
" <u>ew</u> " at the end of a word or syllable	new flew chew
" <u>ue</u> " at the end of a word or syllable	clue glue blue
" <u>u</u> " with silent " <u>e</u> " at the end of the word; may have an " <u>s</u> ," " <u>d</u> ," or " <u>r</u> " added to the end of the word	tube rule, rules include
" <u>ou</u> " in the middle of a word	soup group
" <u>o</u> " at the end of a word	to do who
" <u>u</u> " in the middle of a word	ruby tulip rumor

Doc Leeda is an animal doctor, or vet.
She has a magical gift. Doc Leeda can
understand and speak to animals.



Doc Leeda was eating when she got a text. It was from Zookeeper Lucy.

“We just got in a new baby kangaroo. Do you have time to do a routine health check?” asked Zookeeper Lucy.

Doc Leeda replied, “Yes. I will leave soon. I am just eating some homemade soup. Shall I bring you some?”

“Yes, please!” Zookeeper Lucy replied. “See you soon!”





Lucy was waiting when Doc Leeda got to the zoo.

“Thanks for coming so soon,” she said to Doc Leeda. “It is a busy day. I have a school group here for a tour,” said Lucy.

“I brought you the soup. I will talk with the school group while you eat,” said Doc Leeda.

“Thank you. You are a great friend,” replied Lucy.

“Welcome to the zoo, everyone. My name is Doc Leeda. I am a vet. I am here today to examine a new baby kangaroo.” said Doc Leeda.

“That is so cool! What other animals do you help the zoo with?” asked a child.

“In June, I helped a baboon with a loose tooth,” said Doc Leeda.

Lucy stepped forward. “Time for our tour, kids.”

Lucy told Doc Leeda, “We put the baby kangaroo next to the goose coop. See you soon.”





Doc Leeda arrived at the **g**oose **c**oop. The baby kangaroo was hanging in a pouch on a fence.

“Hello, I am Doc Leeda. I am here **t**o help,” said Doc Leeda.

“I can understand **y**ou!” said the baby kangaroo.

“I have a magical gift. I can speak **t**o animals. Other people **d**o not know,” said Doc Leeda.

“My name is **Lou**,” said the baby kangaroo.

“I got lost from my mom. The people who found me saved my life. Who will take care of me now?” asked **Lou**.

“The zookeepers hope their mama kangaroo will adopt **you**. But first I need to make sure **you** are healthy,” said Doc Leeda.





Doc Leeda examined baby Lou. This included checking for any wounds.

“You are healthy. Are you hungry?” asked Doc Leeda.

Lou replied, “Yes!”

Doc Leeda gave Lou a bottle. Just then, Zookeeper Lucy came with the school group.

“How is the kangaroo?” Lucy asked Doc Leeda.

“Little Lou is doing well. I started feeding him some milk,” replied Doc Leeda.

“Lou! That is a super sweet name,” said a child.

“I like it too,” said Lucy.

“Lou is a boy kangaroo. Boy kangaroos are also called boomers,” said Doc Leeda.



“Let’s go on with our tour. We can meet Doc Leeda later, at Oona’s exhibit. She will be through feeding Lou then,” Lucy told the children.

“But we want to learn more about kangaroos!” the children cried.



Check for Understanding

Ask students the following questions to review Doc Leeda's "long oo" lesson.

1. *Which letters in the word "raccoon" make the "oo," or "long oo," sound?*
2. Read the following word aloud: *knew*. Then ask: *Which two letters in the word "knew" make the "oo" sound?*
3. Read the following sentence aloud: *You can have the blue hat.* Then ask: *Which two words in the sentence have the "oo" sound?*

Doc Leeda's List

Words that make the "oo," sound

baboon	kangaroo	through
bamboo	loose	true
boomer	Lou	to
blue	Lucy	together
chewing	marsupial	too
choose	mongoose	troop
cool	move, moved	tooth
coop	new	tour
do, doing	Oona	who
food	room	wounds
goose	routine	you
group	school	zoo
included	soon	zookeeper
into	soup	
June	super	