

Vocabulary Activities for  
**My Lucky Day**  
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**startled:** means surprised

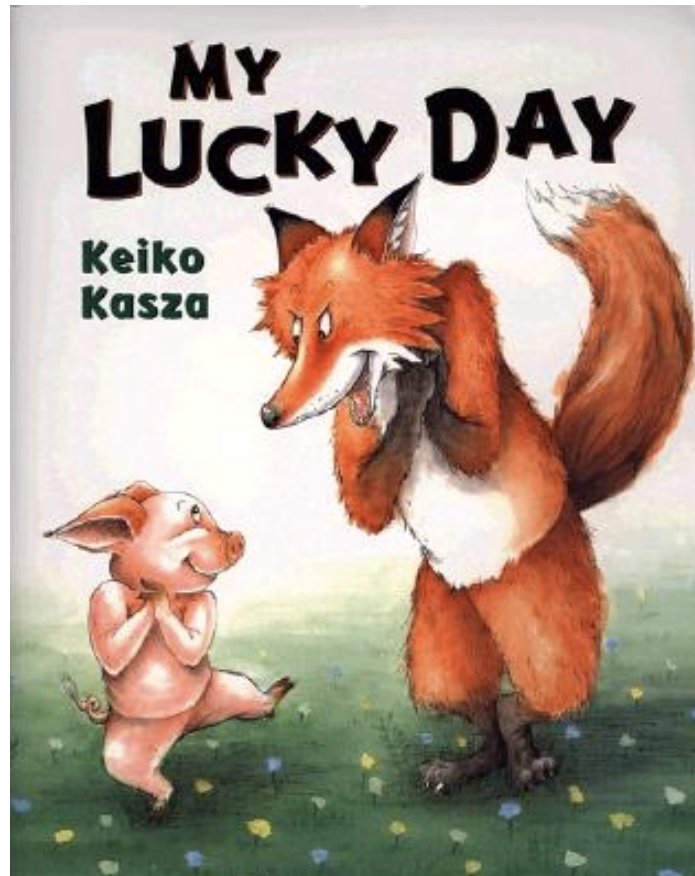
As I walked in the dark room, I was startled when the cat ran past me.

**haul:** means to pull or drag

I haul my heavy book bag to the car.

**struggle:** describes someone or something that is trying really hard to become free  
or do something difficult

I struggled to untie the double knotted shoestring.



## Read the book and Introduce the words

### Introduce haul

In the story the fox haul the piglet inside his house.

**Haul** means to pull or drag.

Say the word with me. (haul)

We use my dad's truck to **haul** the boat to the lake.

Can you think of something you have had to **haul** around? Use the word **haul** when you tell about it.

What's the word we've been talking about? (**haul**)

### Introduce startled

In the story, the fox was sitting at his table when he was **startled** by a knock at the door.

**Startled** means surprised.

Say the word with me. (startled)

When someone sneaks up behind you, they may **startle** you.

Can you think of a time you were **startled** by something or someone? Use the word **startled** when you talk about it.

What's the word we've been talking about? (startled)

### Introduce struggle

When the piglet was being hauled into the kitchen by the fox, he did not try to get away.

He realized it was no use trying to **struggle** free.

**Struggle** means to try really hard to become free or do something difficult

Say the word with me. (struggle)

I **struggled** to get across the monkey bars the first time I tried. But with practice it became easier.

Can you think of something of something you really **struggle** with? Use the word struggle when you talk about it.

What's the word we've been talking about? (struggle)

### Word Associations

Review words by asking students to help you make a chart with the words and definitions. Use their words as much as possible. (struggle, haul, startled)

Which word goes with try hard?	(struggle)
Which word goes with drag?	(haul)
Which word goes with scare?	(startled)
Which word goes with make every effort?	(struggle)
Which word goes with lug?	(haul)
Which word goes with shock?	(startled)

## **Using All the Words**

We talked about 3 words. Let's think about them.

Show me how your face might look if you felt **startled**.

Show me how your face might look if you were **struggling** with something.

Stand and show me how you might look if you had to **haul** something around.

## **Making Choices** (startled, struggle, haul)

Make a choice between two of the words.

- Learning to do multiplication: **haul** or **struggle**
- Loud thunder: **struggle** or **startled**
- Santa's sack of toys: **haul** or **struggle**
- Writing with your other hand: **struggle** or **haul**
- Telephone ringing in middle of the night: **struggle** or **startled**
- Broken down car **haul** or **startled**

## **Have You Ever?**

Ask the following questions. (Could do turn and talk.)

Have you ever been startled in the middle of the night? Tell us about it.

Have you every had to haul something really heavy? Tell about it.

Describe a time you had to struggle to do something.

## **Fill in the Blank** (startled, struggle, haul)

1. When the teacher slammed her hand on the desk it \_\_\_\_\_ me.
2. My mom \_\_\_\_\_ to get me in the doctor's office because I didn't want to get a shot.
3. I had to \_\_\_\_\_ the hay to the barn.
4. I \_\_\_\_\_ with math.
5. When I walked into the room, I was \_\_\_\_\_ when everyone yelled, "Surprise!"
6. My pocketbook is too full for me to \_\_\_\_\_ around all day.

### Answer Key

1. startled
2. struggled
3. haul
4. struggle
5. startled
6. haul

**True / False** (startled, struggle, haul)

Show a thumbs up if the statement makes sense or is true.

Show a thumbs down if the statement is is silly or false.

(Could also use a white board and have students write T or F.)

1. I laugh when I am **startled**.
2. I might get tired if I have to **haul** something around all day.
3. A 2 year old may **struggle** if they have to carry a gallon of milk.
4. When I heard the loud scream I was **startled**.
5. I had to **haul** my piece of paper around the room.
6. Some kids **struggle** with learning to read.
7. You can **startle** the brick wall.
8. Girls often pack too much and have to **haul** around large suitcases.
9. If you **struggle** with something it comes easy.

Answer Key

1. False 2. True 3. True 4. True 5. False 6. True 7. False 8. True 9. False

**Examples and Non-Examples**

Have students pick the one that is an example of the word.

	<b>haul</b>	
song		car
	<b>startled</b>	
when a friend jumped out from behind a bush		when you get a new toy
	<b>struggle</b>	
making a free throw		brushing your teeth
	<b>haul</b>	
heavy		light
	<b>startled</b>	
a loud sneeze		a quiet sneeze
	<b>struggle</b>	
crossword puzzle		tic tac toe

## **Multiple Choice**

1. If you felt **startled**, you might look \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. sad
  - b. happy
  - c. surprised
2. If I **struggled** with the lawn mower ...
  - a. it might have been hard to start
  - b. it might have been easy to start
  - c. it might work nicely
3. Which of the following would be hard to **haul**?
  - a. a feather
  - b. bag of dog food
  - c. a bag of rocks
4. Which would not **startle** you?
  - a. a flower
  - b. scream
  - c. doorbell
5. Which would **not** be a **struggle** for you?
  - a. cleaning out the gutters on the house
  - b. rock climbing on a rainy day
  - c. writing your name
6. Which would you **haul** with a car?
  - a. house
  - b. boat
  - c. wagon

Answer Key 1. c 2. a 3. c 4. a 5. c 6. b

Make copies of the following 3 words for each student. Use them as response cards so you may check for understanding. As a final check, I give students all 3 words and a half sheet of paper. They illustrate 2 of the words.

<b>startled</b>	<b>startled</b>
<b>haul</b>	<b>haul</b>
<b>STRUGGLE</b>	<b>STRUGGLE</b>
<b>startled</b>	<b>startled</b>
<b>haul</b>	<b>haul</b>
<b>STRUGGLE</b>	<b>STRUGGLE</b>