# 27-The Evil Empire
## Two-Syllable Words
### single consonant between vowels, long v

One day as Rat The Cat and Chicken Fred dug in the mud, the mail carrier came up and gave Rat a note.

"What is it?" asked Fred.

"It may be a note from an old rival, Weird Wally The Weasel," said Rat. "If I can decode it I'll see what he wants." So Rat decoded the

message, then yelled to Fred.

"Fred, we have a crisis!"

"A *minor* crisis?" asked Fred.

"No, a *major* crisis!" said Rat."Weird Wally The Weasel is going to the North Pole!"

"Who is Weird Wally?" asked Fred.

"Weird Wally is an evil beast, a weird and quite stupid agent of the Evil Empire. He has vowed to be the first to reach the North Pole, and if he does he will claim it for the Evil Empire. We must stop him!"

"How can we stop him?" asked Fred.

"We must beat him to the North Pole!" said Rat. "Start packing! We must begin now!"

Rat and Fred packed. Rat packed a tent, sleeping bags, a rifle, cider, and some dry meat. Fred packed soap and long underwear.

"So, what hotel will we stay at, Rat?" asked Fred as they left.

"Hotel?" said Rat. "We will stay at the Polar Hotel."

"Polar Hotel?" asked Fred. "Where is the Polar Hotel?"

"Wherever I put up the tent!" said Rat.

Rat and Fred got on a plane. The plane flew way up north and dropped them off at a base camp on an ice field.

"Will you be okay?" asked the pilot as Rat and Fred got off the plane.

"Sure," said Rat.

"No," said Fred.

"Well," said the pilot, "this place is not fit for a human."

"We are not human," said Rat.

"I can tell by the odor," said the pilot. "Look

out for polar bears and the White Tiger Of The North!" Then the pilot flew off.

"White tigers? Polar bears? Yipes!" said Fred.

"Stop whining, Fred," said Rat. "We must locate Wally and stop him. If that tyrant can erect a fort at the North Pole, the Evil Empire will win for sure!"

"Look Rat! A clue!" said Fred. "Potato skins and a tomato core! Weird Wally has been here and left his trash!"

"Good," said Rat. "Our labor has not been in vain."

"Look!" Fred exclaimed. "More of Wally's trash! A whole pile of it!"

"Let me see!" said Rat.

Fred began to eat. "Mmmmm..." he said. "A slice of old pie!" Rat dug in too.

"Mmmmm..." said Rat. "A stale donut!" Rat

saw a slice of old cake.

"Hand me that cake, Fred," Rat said.

"Sure," said Fred. "And have a bite of this rotting fish!"

As Rat and Fred dug in the trash, a big cat came up from the trash pile.

"Aaaah!" screamed Rat. "The White Tiger Of The North!"

"Yipes!" Fred yelled. Then they both yelled, "The White Tiger! The White Tiger!"

But it was not the White Tiger Of The North, it was a mean stray cat.

Just then Dan yelled from the back window, "Hey, I don't care if you two pretend to go to the North Pole, and I didn't mind pretending to be the mail carrier or the pilot, but STAY OUT OF THE TRASH! Now pick up that mess Agent Rat and Agent Fred!"

# Vocabulary

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| flavor | bonus | tiger | pretend |
| became | basic | cider | forest |
| defend | locate | minor | pilot |
| agent | erase | labor | odor |
| tyrant | erect | minus | human |
| minor | major | stupid | broken |
| pupil | rival | donut | decode |
| polar | hotel | total | label |
| unite | donate | focus | demand |
| protect | belong | depend | begin |
| began | evil | crisis | open |
| unit | virus | potato | tomato |

# Weird Words

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| can't | chicken | warned | carrier |
| I'd | weasel | field | didn't |
| puny | message | dry | comics |
| school | exclaimed | wherever | dance |
| noise | weird | bears | suit |
| point | underwear | going | contest |

# Dictation

I hope that tiger does not like my flavor.

Let us go into the forest and pretend to be cats.

Did the evil man erect his fort?

Is this a minor or a major crisis?

Did Rat and Fred stay at the Polar Hotel?

The pupil does not belong in here.

That tiger has a bad odor.

Tell Agent Rat that the hotel is not open.

The virus made the pilot sick.

I will defend the fort from that stupid dog.

I will erase the note after I decode it.

I would like cider and a donut.

Did the label say potato or tomato?

Did you locate the broken car in the forest?

I will donate for a new hotel.

Rat is not my rival.

I can pretend to be a cat.

The cider has an odor.

I will begin the race.