



8-The Rude Mule

**long u, consonant-u-consonant-e
yu sound**

One fine day at nine:

Sam asked Dan, "Can I take
Rat The Cat to Pine Lake to
ride a mule on the side of a
hill?"

"Yes," said Dan. "Please take Rat The Cat. PLEASE!" So Sam took Rat to Pine Lake.

At the lake Ranger Tim gave Sam a mule.

Your mule is *June*," Ranger Tim said to Sam. Then Ranger Tim gave Rat a mule.

"Your mule is *Luke*," said Ranger Tim.

Rat's mule was huge. Rat said, "My mule, *Luke*, is a big, bad

dude!"

"Not mine," said Sam. "My mule, *June*, is little, like a June Bug."

Luke tried to bite Rat The Cat. Rat ran to Ranger Tim.

"Aaaah!" yelled Rat as he ran. "My mule is NOT nice! I hate Luke!"

"My mule is rude," Rat told Ranger Tim.

"Not mine," said Sam. "My

mule is like a nice, little bug. I like June."

Rat got on his mule, Luke.

Sam got on his mule, June.

Sam made his mule flat, but Luke bucked and made Rat The Cat fall into the mud.

"A new rule," said Ranger Tim. "Big dude on big mule, little cat on little mule."

"I like that rule," said Rat.

"ME TOO!" said June.

Sam got on Luke and Rat got on June. Sam and Rat had a nice ride on the side of the hill at Pine Lake. The ride was so fun that Rat had to hum a tune.

"THE BALLAD OF PINE LAKE"

**THE DAY WAS HOT, THE MULE WAS LARGE,
WHEN RAT TRIED TO TAKE THE SADDLE,
RAT HAD TO PROVE HIMSELF IN CHARGE
IN THIS EQUINE - FELINE BATTLE.**

**SAM HAD TAKEN HIS TINY STEED'S MEASURE-
"THIS BITE-SIZED BEAST WON'T SUPPORT ME,"
BUT HE MOUNTED THE MULE TO JUNE'S DISPLEASURE,
AND DEMANDED, "LET'S GET GOING, SHORTY."**

**NOW LUKE WAS A FIGHTER, NOT A DIPLOMAT,
A VET'RAN OF COUNTLESS BATTLES,
HE BIT AT RAT, THEN BUCKED RAT FLAT,
SO RAT GOT THE RANGER AND TATTLED.**

**AND SAM DID FLATTEN HIS MINIATURE MARE,
HER BREATHLESS CRIES 'MOST UNHEARD,
"GET OFF ME," SHE HISSED, "YOU FLEA-BITTEN BEAR!
YOU'RE MAKING ME SQUEEZE OUT A TURD!"**

**SUCH WAS THE SHOWDOWN THAT GLORIOUS MORN,
IT WAS TRULY NO FUN FOR OUR TROUPE,
FOR FOOLISHNESS LEAVES FEISTY CATS FORLORN,
AND CAUSES MULES TO PRESS OUT A POOP.**

Vocabulary

tube	Luke	tune	rude
rule	June	dude	dune

-yu sound

mule fume cute pure huge

Weird Words

went	could	down	then
new	bucked	into	that
onto	that	dream	your
into	Ranger	asked	shot
day	too	hill	liked
stuck	water	with	tried
yes	fall	little	please

Dictation

The mule did not like Rat.
I like to hum a tune.
It is rude to hide in the cave.
Luke is a tan cat.
It is a bad rule.
The pop is pure.
I had a tube of gum.
Rat is not a big dude.
The dog is cute.
The rude cat is not cute.
The mole is a rude dude.
Sam can ride the rude mule.
June is a cute mule.
Tim made a new rule.
The mule made Rat fume.
I can ride a mule on a dune.