

READING KIT—NEW READER

Level 1—Comprehension



USER GUIDE

DESCRIPTION:

Help your reader develop their comprehension skills using the books, tips and activity in this kit!

Comprehension happens when readers understand what they are reading. Readers with comprehension skills can explain what they are reading. They can make connections between what they read and their own lives. Have conversations with your reader about what they are reading to help build comprehension skills.

CONTENTS:

- 4 various books
- Ukloo Scavenger Hunt Game—Level 1

ACTIVITY:

Ukloo Scavenger Hunt Game—Level 1

Specifically created for beginning readers, this game is a fun way to help your reader build their comprehension skills.

How to Play

- Look at the clue cards. Decide where you want to hide them around the space (home, library, etc.).
- Pick out a surprise for your reader to discover at the end of their scavenger hunt, such as a book, snack, photo of something they love, bookmark, etc.
- Hide your clues and surprise.

- Give your reader the first clue.
- Help your reader sound out new words as needed. Say the sound for each letter slowly. Gradually speed up so the sounds blend into a word.
- Play the game again mixing up the clues, scavenger hunt space and surprise!

TIPS:

- **Discuss:** Start a discussion about characters with a question: “Why do you think that character made that choice?” “How do you think that character felt when that happened?”
- **Retell:** After reading a book, retell the story together using stuffed animals, toys or puppets.
- **Expand:** Encourage your reader to write a letter or draw a picture for a beloved character from a book.
- **Explain:** Talk about related words with similar spellings and meanings. Show how a word like happiness, for example, relates to a word like happy.



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READING KIT—DEVELOPING READER

Level 2—Comprehension

USER GUIDE

DESCRIPTION:

Help your reader develop their comprehension skills using the books, tips and activity in this kit!

Comprehension happens when readers understand what they are reading. Readers with comprehension skills can explain what they are reading. They can make connections between what they read and their own lives. Have conversations with your reader about what they are reading to help build comprehension skills.

CONTENTS:

- 4 various books
- Ukloo Scavenger Hunt Game—Level 2

ACTIVITY:

Ukloo Scavenger Hunt Game—Level 2

Specifically created for beginning readers, this game is a fun way to help your reader build their comprehension skills.

How to Play

- Look at the clue cards. Decide where you want to hide them around the space (home, library, etc.).
- Pick out a surprise for your reader to discover at the end of their scavenger hunt, such as a book, snack, photo of something they love, bookmark, etc.
- Hide your clues and surprise.

- Give your reader the first clue.
- Help your reader sound out new words as needed. Say the sound for each letter slowly. Gradually speed up so the sounds blend into a word.
- Play the game again mixing up the clues, scavenger hunt space and surprise!

TIPS:

- **Tell:** Take turns adding to a made up story while riding in a car or bus. Try making the story funny or spooky.
- **Reread:** If your reader misreads a word, wait until they get to the end of the sentence. Then ask them to go back and reread the whole sentence.
- **Out and About:** Bring along a book or magazine any time your reader has to sit and wait, such as a bus ride or doctor's appointment.
- **Cook:** Make a recipe together. Read it together before you make it. Then read it again as you are making it.



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READING KIT—NEW READER

Level 1—Fluency



USER GUIDE

DESCRIPTION:

Help your reader develop fluency using the books, tips and activity in this kit!

Fluency is what happens when a reader can decode words and comprehend them at the same time. Fluent readers are connecting individual words to read smoothly and with expression. Read books aloud with your reader over and over again to build fluency skills.

CONTENTS:

- 4 various books
- Reader's theater scripts—Level 1

ACTIVITY:

Reader's Theatre—Level 1

Reader's theatre encourages kids to practice reading fluency in an engaging way.

How to Play

- Decide who will read each part. There are four characters in each script.
- If there are fewer than four readers, an adult can read for multiple characters.
- Readers will follow along and read aloud their character's highlighted lines throughout the script.
- Support your child by reading with expression. This is an important part of fluency.
- Swap characters and scripts to build fluency.

TIPS:

- **Listen:** Read aloud or have your reader follow along with the audio book to hear a good example of fluent reading.
- **Find:** Use the five finger rule to help your child pick a book for them to practice fluency. Hold up a finger for each word your child is not sure of, or does not know. If there are five or more words your child does not know, choose an easier book. Three fingers is a sweet spot for fluency development.
- **Follow:** When you're reading aloud ask your reader to follow along by running their finger under the printed words as you read them to develop their left-to-right tracking skills.
- **Reread:** Encourage your reader to reread their favorite books. This helps them gain fluency.



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READING KIT—DEVELOPING READER

Level 2—Fluency

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Fluency is what happens when a reader can decode words and comprehend them at the same time. Fluent readers are connecting individual words to read smoothly and with expression. Read books aloud with your reader over and over again to build fluency skills.

CONTENTS:

- 4 various books
- Reader's theater scripts—Level 2

ACTIVITY:

Reader's Theatre—Level 2

Reader's theatre encourages kids to practice reading fluency in an engaging way.

How to Play

- Decide who will read each part. There are four characters in each script.
- If there are fewer than four readers, an adult can read for multiple characters.
- Readers will follow along and read aloud their character's highlighted lines throughout the script.
- Support your child by reading with expression. This is an important part of fluency.
- Swap characters and scripts to build fluency.

TIPS:

- **Reread:** When your reader finishes a sentence that included a new word, encourage them to re-read the whole sentence. Often readers are so busy figuring out a word they lose the meaning of what they've just read.
- **Share:** Take turns reading pages from a book. This allows your reader to hear and practice reading fluently.
- **Choice:** Let your reader pick out books. It takes practice to read fluently, and your reader will be more motivated to read books they've selected themselves
- **Buddy up:** Encourage your reader to practice reading to a sibling, pet or toy.



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READING KIT—NEW READER

Level 1—Background Knowledge



USER GUIDE

DESCRIPTION:

Help your reader develop their background knowledge skills using the books, tips and activity in this kit!

Background knowledge is everything readers know before they start to read. All of the vocabulary and concepts they already know will help when they try to decode and comprehend new words and ideas. Help your reader build background knowledge by introducing new ideas and experiences—and then talking about them.

CONTENTS:

- 4 various books
- Create a Story cards

ACTIVITY:

These fun, storytelling cards are a fantastic way to build your reader's vocabulary and narrative skills as you tell stories together.

Two Ways to Play

1) _____

- Draw 10 cards at random.
- Lay them out face up.
- Select a card to begin a story.
- Choose additional cards from the table to continue the story.
- Place them in a line to support visual sequencing.

- Encourage retelling the story, using the cards as prompts. You can take turns adding story elements or let your reader take the lead.

2) _____

- Shuffle the cards.
- Draw a card at random to begin the story. Place it face up on the table.
- Deal 5 cards to each player. Players take turns adding cards and continuing the story.
- Place cards in a line to support visual sequencing.
- Draw a new card each time one is played.
- Reinforce memory by encouraging players to retell the story before adding a new card.

TIPS:

- **Connect:** Make real world connections to familiar things as you read. Share your memories and thoughts when you see something you know. Invite your reader to do the same.
- **Explore:** Introduce new vocabulary by exploring the glossary of a nonfiction book together before reading the text. Point out new words as they come up.
- **Talk:** Discuss the features of a nonfiction book (table of contents, glossaries, maps) and how they make it easier to find information.
- **Expand:** Use your library card to access books and materials of interest to your child.



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READING KIT—DEVELOPING READER

Level 2—Background Knowledge

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CONTENTS:

- 4 various books
- Insect Identification Activity

ACTIVITY:

Insect Identification Activity

Expand your reader's vocabulary and concepts by examining and discussing the insect specimens.

Insect Identification Activity

Expand your reader's vocabulary and concepts by examining and discussing the insect specimens.

1. Look at each specimen and discuss what you notice.
2. You can also compare insects side by side and talk about what's different or the same.

3. Use the anatomy guide to learn about insect body parts.

4. Want to learn even more about insects? Ask library staff to help you find great books about insects for developing readers.

Questions to build background knowledge:

- How many legs/eyes/body parts/etc. do you see?
- What kinds of markings do you see?
- What do you think this insect eats?
- How is this insect different/same as the other insects?

TIPS:

- **Write:** Fold pieces of paper in half and staple them to make a book. Ask your reader to write a story and add pictures.
- **Look It Up:** Let your reader see you use a dictionary. Say, "Hmm, I'm not sure what that word means...I think I'll look it up."
- **Read Aloud:** Continue reading aloud to your new reader to expose them to richer vocabulary and more complex concepts.



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READING KIT—NEW READER

Level 1—Decoding



USER GUIDE

DESCRIPTION:

Help your reader develop their decoding skills using the books, tips and activity in this kit!

Decoding is what happens when readers put together letter sounds to figure out words. Letters and letter combinations all represent different sounds--like a code. To decode a word, readers have to connect the letters with the sounds. Help your reader practice decoding by encouraging them to sound out words when they read.

CONTENTS:

- 4 various books
- My First Bananagrams Game

ACTIVITY:

My First Bananagrams

This fun, educational game which allows players to work on sounding out letters and words, spelling and rhyming.

Four Ways to Play

1. Word families: Put out a combo letter tile face up. Place a handful of single letter tiles face down on the table. Take turns drawing a single tile and seeing if it makes a word when you add it to the combo letter tile. Even if the word is nonsensical, this helps your reader hear the sounds that letters and syllables make—an important aspect of decoding!

2. Name game: Use the tiles to spell your reader's name and names of other friends, family, or favorite characters.

3. Sound it out: Place a handful of tiles on the table face down. Take turns pulling tiles. How many words can you think of that start with that sound? Try spelling some of the words using the tiles.

4. You choose: Make up a game of your own with your child allowing for even more positive reinforcement around letters, sounds, and words!

TIPS:

- **Listen:** Help your reader hear letter and syllable sounds by asking questions like, "Do we hear mmmmmm in the word Moon?"
- **Repeat:** Reading the same words multiple times helps your reader reinforce neural pathways so they can retain new words.
- **Rhyme:** Playing rhyming games, saying tongue twisters and singing helps your reader hear letter and syllable sounds.
- **Blend:** If your reader gets stuck on a word, ask them to tell you the first letter of the word and the sound the letter makes. Work through each letter of the word until finally your reader blends them all together.



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CONTENTS:

- 4 various books
- Matching Letter Game

ACTIVITY:

Matching Letter Game

This fun and educational game helps readers spell and sound out three- and four-letter words using alphabet cubes.

Two Ways to Play

1. Match It:

- Arrange the cards so all of the three-letter cards are facing the same direction. Cover the picture with the shield so only the word is showing.
- Point to the word and help your reader say each letter sound individually and then faster to blend it into one word. Once they figure the word out, remove the shield.

- Ask your reader to find the cube that matches the letters in the word. Place the cube with the letter face up in front of the letter on the card.
- When each letter is in place, say each letter out loud and then say the word that it spells.
- Repeat this process through the rest of the three-letter word-cards then flip them over and try the four-letter word cards.

2. Cover It:

- Begin the game by showing your reader the word on the first visible card. Then cover the word with the shield.
- Ask your reader to use word cubes to spell the word from memory.
- If your reader gets stuck, say the word slowly so they can hear the letter sounds.
- When all the letters are in place, remove the shield. Say each letter out loud and then say the word it spells.
- Repeat with the rest of the cards.

TIPS:

- **Wait:** When your reader is trying to sound out an unfamiliar word, give them time to do so. Count to five before you offer to help.
- **Ask:** If your reader is struggling, try asking them, "You've got a bit stuck—that's OK. What helped last time this happened?"
- **Divide:** If your reader struggles with a word, cover part of the word and sound out each syllable slowly. Then string all the syllables together.
- **Focus:** Help your reader identify the vowel sounds in a challenging word. Then try decoding from the beginning of the word once again.

