

# Kindergarten



In kindergarten, students will develop phonemic awareness with storybook characters like Zack and Ann Chang, draw a chart to identify different smells, learn about the Lenape, Wampanoag, and Lakota Sioux, and pay homage to classic nursery rhymes by jumping a candlestick.

## Skills

### Print Concepts

- Basic Features of Print
- Directionality
- Letter Recognition
- Features of a Sentence

### Phonological Awareness

- Rhyming Words
- Blending
- Phoneme Substitution
- Segmentation
- Initial/Medial/Final Sounds

### Phonics and Word Recognition

- Consonants
- Long and Short Vowels
- High-Frequency Words
- Decoding Single-Syllable Words
- Irregularly Spelled Words
- Multiple Meaning Words

### Grammar

- Singular/Plural Nouns
- Pronouns
- Verbs
- Capitalization/Punctuation

## Domains

### Nursery Rhymes and Fables

Start learning about literature with these classic Mother Goose rhymes.

### The Five Senses

Learning about the body starts with learning about how we experience the world.

### Stories

We learn about the parts of a book and some of the stories that go in one.

### Plants

The life cycle of plants and the history of George Washington Carver.

### Farms

Now we know how plants make their food...but what about animals?

### Native Americans

Who were the first people in America? A look at the Lenape, Wampanoag, and Lakota Sioux.

### Kings and Queens

To understand fairy tales, it's best to first understand royalty.

### Seasons and Weather

The study of natural cycles continues with the weather and why it happens.

### Columbus and the Pilgrims

A look at the first contact between Europe and the Americas, and some of its results.

### Colonial Towns and Townspeople

Before the War for Independence, how did the town and country depend on one another?

### Taking Care of the Earth

We only have one Earth—here are some ways to help care for it.

### Presidents and American Symbols

Start learning about government through the lives of five presidents.

## Trade books

*Hush: A Thai Lullaby* by Minfong Ho

*Rainbow Joe and Me* by Maria Diaz Strom

*Red Riding Hood* by James Marshall

*The Tiny Seed* by Eric Carle

*The Cazuela that the Farm Maiden Stirred*  
by Samantha R. Vamos

*D is for Drum: A Native American Alphabet*  
by Michael Shoulders

*Princess Hyacinth* by Florence Parry Heide

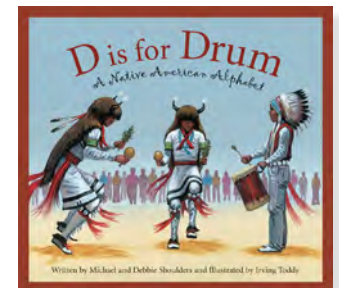
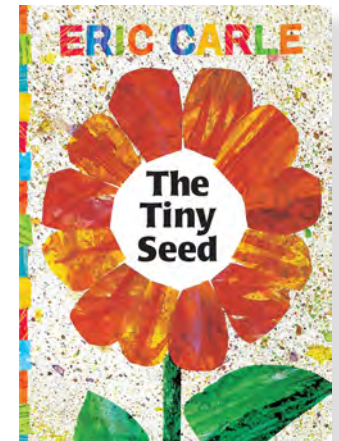
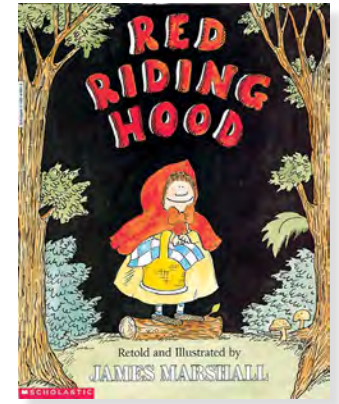
*Thunder Cake* by Patricia Polacco

*Pilgrims of Plymouth* by Susan E. Goodman

*Ox-Cart Man* by Donald Hall

*The Wump World* by Bill Peet

*If I Were President* by Catherine Stier



# Grade 1



In grade 1, students will sing about a fabulous fox, learn to tell the difference between fairy tale heroes and villains, write an opinion statement about the worst part of going to the moon, and learn ancient Egyptian techniques for mummifying an apple.

## Skills

### Print Concepts

- Basic Features of Print
- Directionality
- Letter Recognition
- Features of a Sentence

### Phonological Awareness

- Blending
- Phoneme Substitution
- Segmentation
- Initial/Medial/Final Sounds

### Phonics and Word Recognition

- Consonants
- Long and Short Vowels
- r-Controlled Vowels
- Diagraphs
- Diphthongs
- High-Frequency Words
- Spelling Alternatives
- Decoding Single-Syllable Words
- Syllable Words
- Decoding Two-Syllable Words
- Inflectional Endings
- Root Words
- Irregularly Spelled Words
- Homonyms
- Multiple Meaning Words

### Grammar

- Singular/Plural Nouns
- Proper Nouns
- Pronouns
- Verbs
- Verb Tense
- Adjectives
- Contractions
- Capitalization/Punctuation

## Domains

### Fables and Stories

Learn some of the key elements of a story through classic fables.

### The Human Body

What are germs? What are the organs? And what does it all have to do with health?

### Different Lands, Similar Stories

A world tour of storytelling, and the stories that stay the same across the world.

### Early World Civilizations

Rivers, farming, writing, and laws: just what does it take to build a civilization?

### Early American Civilizations

What will we find in the great temples of the Aztec, Maya, and Inca civilizations?

### Astronomy

How the earth relates to the moon, the sun, and the rest of the planets.

### The History of the Earth

Just what lies beneath the earth's surface, and what can it teach us about the past?

### Animals and Habitats

A look at the connection between how animals live and where they make their homes.

### Fairy Tales

What do fairy tales have to teach us about how stories are told?

### A New Nation: American Independence

The story of the birth of the United States out of the thirteen colonies.

### Frontier Explorers

The story of the journey west from the newborn U.S.A. to find the Pacific Ocean.

## Trade books

*Tunjur! Tunjur! Tunjur! A Palestinian Tale*  
by Margaret Read MacDonald

*The Busy Body Book: A Kid's Guide to Fitness*  
by Lizzy Rockwell

*Lon Po Po: A Red-Riding Hood Story from China*  
by Ed Young

*Gilgamesh the King* by Ludmila Zeman

*Rain Player* by David Wisniewski

*Once Upon a Starry Night* by Jacqueline Mitton

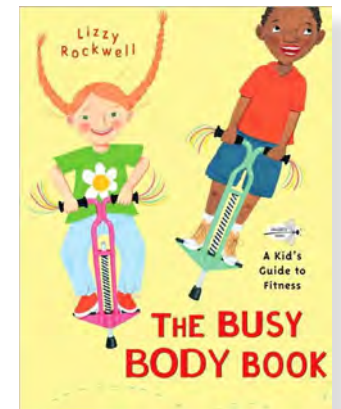
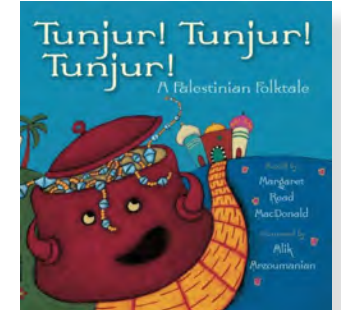
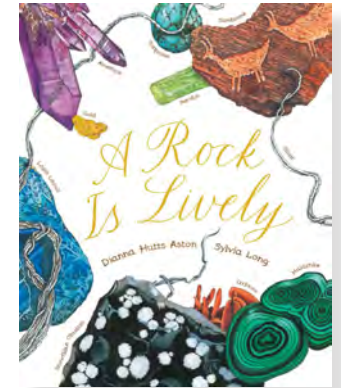
*A Rock is Lively* by Dianna Hutts Aston

*Wonderful Nature, Wonderful You*  
by Karin Ireland

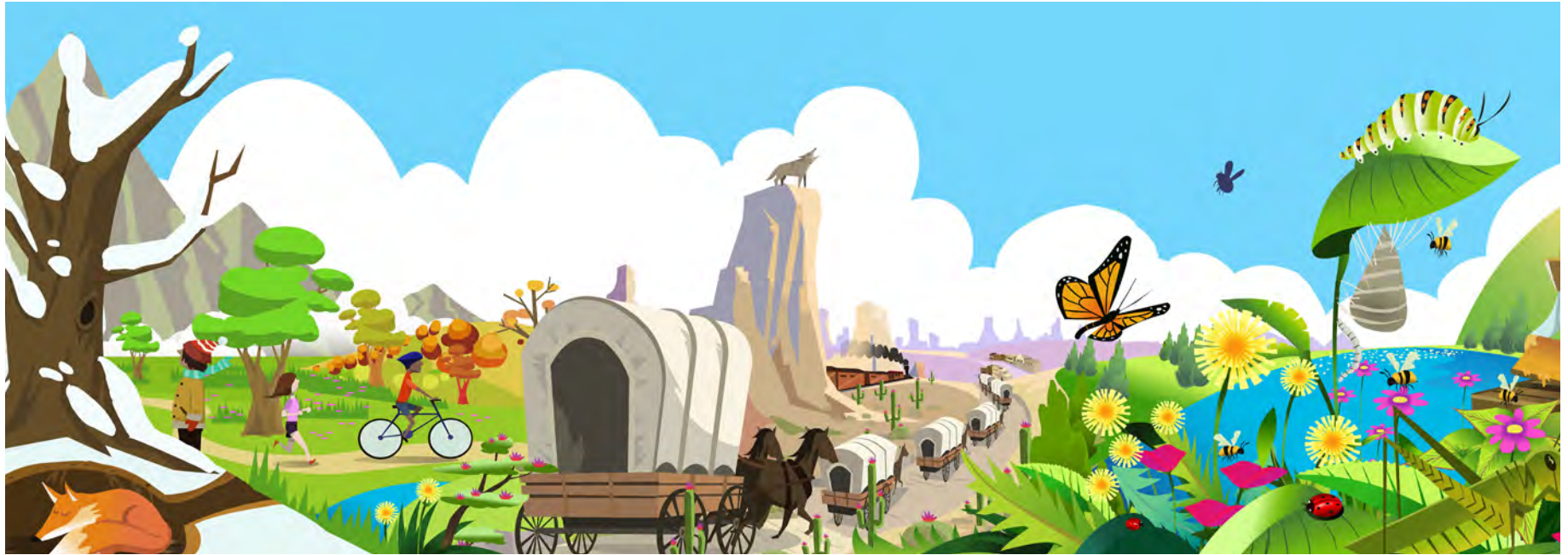
*The Great Fairy Tale Disaster* by David Conway

*A More Perfect Union: The Story of Our Constitution* by Betsy Maestro

*Lewis and Clark: Explorers of the American West*  
by Steven Kroll



# Grade 2



In grade 2, students will thrill to the crimes of the Cat Bandit, assemble books about ancient Chinese culture, write their own Greek myths, and learn the story of the people who escaped to freedom from slavery by “following the Drinking Gourd.”

## Skills

### Phonics and Word Recognition

- Consonants
- Long and Short Vowels
- r-Controlled Vowels
- Diagraphs
- Diphthongs
- High-Frequency Words
- Spelling Alternatives
- Decoding Single-Syllable Words
- Decoding Two-Syllable Words
- Decoding Multisyllabic Words
- Inflectional Endings
- Prefixes and Suffixes
- Root Words
- Irregularly Spelled Words
- Homonyms
- Synonyms/Antonyms
- Multiple Meaning Words

### Grammar

- Singular/Plural Nouns
- Proper Nouns
- Pronouns
- Verbs
- Irregular Verbs
- Verb: to be/to have
- Verb Tense
- Subject and Predicate
- Adjectives
- Adverbs
- Contractions
- Capitalization/Punctuation

## Domains

### Fairy Tales and Tall Tales

Learn about exaggeration and characterization on the frontier.

### Early Asian Civilizations

Tour the world of classical civilization, starting with India and China.

### Ancient Greek Civilization

The tour continues with the philosophy and politics of Greece.

### Greek Myths

Dive deep into the characters and storytelling of classic myths.

### The War of 1812

Learn about America's "Second War for Independence."

### Cycles in Nature

Introducing the natural cycles that make our lives possible.

### Westward Expansion

Why did pioneers go west? What happened to the people who were there?

### Insects

Lay the grounds for animal classification by looking at solitary and social insects.

### The U.S. Civil War

Begin to grapple with U.S. history's central crisis over slavery.

### Human Body: Building Blocks and Nutrition

A deeper dive into the digestive system and the nutrition process.

### Immigration

Why did people immigrate to the United States, and what did they find here?

### Fighting for a Cause

How people can do extraordinary things to make the world better for everyone.

## Trade books

*Swamp Angel* by Anne Isaacs

*Ancient China (A True Book)* by Mel Friedman

*Pythagoras and the Ratios* by Julie Ellis

*King Midas and the Golden Touch* by Charlotte Craft

*The Star-Spangled Banner* in Translation by Elizabeth Raum

*The Snowflake: A Water Cycle Story* by Neil Waldman

*Dandelions* by Eve Bunting

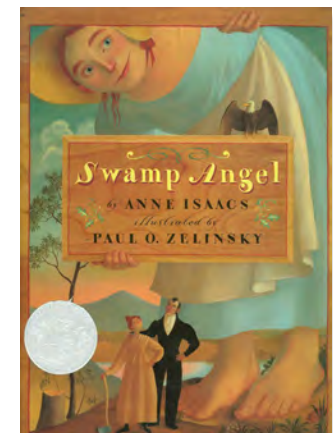
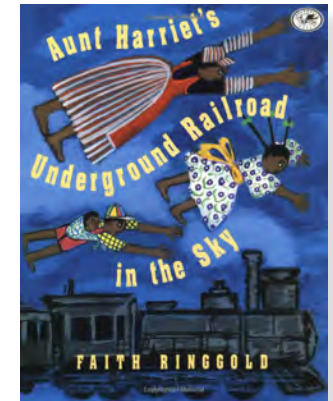
*Insect Bodies* by Molly Aloian

*Aunt Harriet's Underground Railroad in the Sky* by Faith Ringgold

*Baby Doctor's Guide to Anatomy and Physiology* by Baby Professor

*Emma's Poem: The Voice of the Statue of Liberty* by Linda Glaser

*For the Right to Learn: Malala Yousafzai's Story* by Rebecca Langston-George



# Grade 3



In grade 3, students will write a newspaper story about the invention of the telephone, go on a digital quest in company with Viking explorers, reflect on the stars with astronomy lab notes, and learn the secret to writing an excellent narrative ending.

## Skills

### Phonics and Word Recognition

- r-Controlled Vowels
- Diagraphs
- Diphthongs
- High-Frequency Words
- Spelling Alternatives
- Decoding Multisyllabic Words
- Inflectional Endings
- Prefixes and Suffixes
- Derivational and Latin Suffixes
- Root Words
- Irregularly Spelled Words
- Homonyms
- Synonyms/Antonyms
- Multiple Meaning Words

### Grammar

- Singular/Plural Nouns
- Proper Nouns
- Pronouns
- Verbs
- Irregular Verbs
- Verb: to be/to have
- Verb Tense
- Subject and Predicate
- Adjectives
- Adverbs
- Contractions
- Capitalization/Punctuation

## Domains

### Classic Tales: The Wind in the Willows

A deep dive into character, theme, and POV in classic stories from around the world.

### Animal Classification

How do we classify different animals by their appearance and behavior?

### The Human Body: Systems and Senses

Let's take a closer look at how the skeleton, muscles, and nervous system all work.

### The Ancient Roman Civilization

What is Rome's greatest cultural contribution? In this unit, your students decide.

### Light and Sound

The science behind all the ways we see and hear the world.

### The Viking Age

An immersive narrative experience about what life was like in Viking communities.

### Astronomy: Our Solar System and Beyond

More about our universe, including a writing project about daily life on a space station.

### Native Americans: Regions and Cultures

How did Native American nations change their ways of life in different parts of the world?

### Early Explorations of North America

What was it like to sail to North America with the early European explorers?

### Colonial America

A study of the very different ways of life in the different pre-U.S. colonies.

### Ecology

Students keep ecologist's journals to learn about our world and how best to protect it.

## Novel Guides

*Flora & Ulysses* by Kate DiCamillo

*Stella Diaz Has Something to Say* by Angela Dominguez





# Grade 4



In grade 4, students will take part in a dramatic invention competition judged by Thomas Edison, George Washington Carver, and Hedy Lamarr; use writing to investigate the function of a mysterious contraption; become poets; and bring their reading skills to bear on contemporary novel *The House on Mango Street*.

## Skills

### Phonics and Word Recognition

- Decoding Multisyllabic Words
- Inflectional Endings
- Prefixes and Suffixes
- Derivational and Latin Suffixes
- Root Words
- Irregularly Spelled Words
- Homonyms
- Synonyms/Antonyms
- Multiple Meaning Words

### Grammar

- Singular/Plural Nouns
- Proper Nouns
- Pronouns
- Verbs
- Irregular Verbs
- Verb: to be/to have
- Verb Tense
- Subject and Predicate
- Adjectives
- Adverbs
- Contractions
- Capitalization/Punctuation

## Domains

### Personal Narratives

Read stories of personal experience...and learn to reflect on your own.

### Empires in the Middle Ages

Explore the medieval history of Europe and the Middle East.

### Poetry

Study the poetry of many nations, and begin to write your own.

### Eureka! Student Inventor

Transform the class into a lab for students to build and present inventions.

### Geology

Plate tectonics, volcanoes, erosion: all the forces that shape the Earth.

### Contemporary Fiction

Explore the *The House on Mango Street*...and write a book while doing it.

### American Revolution

Why did America seek independence? Let's investigate the causes and effects.

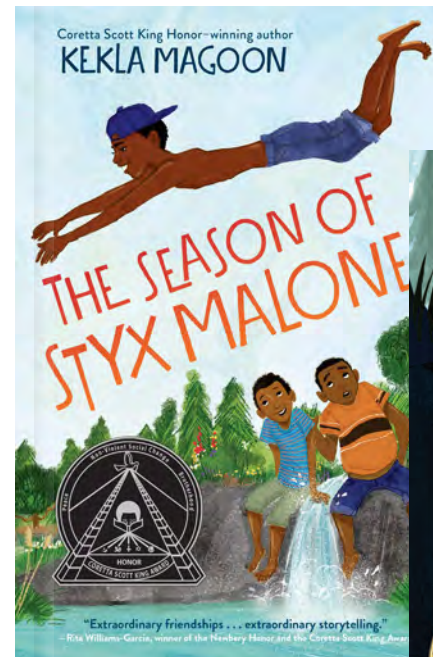
### Treasure Island

Seek the treasure of plot in this detailed study of a classic fiction adventure.

## Novel Guides

*Hello, Universe* by Erin Entrada Kelly

*The Season of Styx Malone* by Kekla Magoon



# Grade 5



In grade 5, students will learn about villanelles and Mayan codices, read and perform Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, use their writing skills to teach a robot about human emotions, and solve a scientific mystery involving ancient fossils.

## Skills

### Phonics and Word Recognition

- Decoding Multisyllabic Words
- Irregularly Spelled Words
- Inflectional Endings
- Homonyms
- Prefixes and Suffixes
- Synonyms/Antonyms
- Derivational and Latin Suffixes
- Multiple Meaning Words
- Root Words

### Grammar

- Singular/Plural Nouns
- Verb Tense
- Proper Nouns
- Subject and Predicate
- Pronouns
- Adjectives
- Verbs
- Adverbs
- Irregular Verbs
- Contractions
- Verb: to be/to have
- Capitalization/Punctuation

## Domains

### Personal Narratives

Through writing and sharing their writing, students begin to identify themselves as writers.

### Early American Civilizations

Students craft a codex to explain the rise and fall of the Maya, Aztec, and Inca people.

### Poetry

Students close read many forms of poetry...and learn to write them.

### Adventures of Don Quixote

Was Don Quixote right to fight the windmill? In this full-length novel study, students decide.

### The Renaissance

Exploring the art and literature of the Renaissance through works of its masters.

### The Reformation

How did the printing press transform the religion and society of Europe?

### A Midsummer Night's Dream

Students enter the world of Shakespeare by reading, designing, and acting his work.

### Native Americans

How did the policies of the US government impact Native American culture and lives?

### Chemical Matter

Students use knowledge of chemistry to solve a mystery of missing fossils.

## Novel Guides

*The Science of Breakable Things* by Tae Keller

*You Don't Know Everything, Jilly P!* by Alex Gino

