

Dear Parents and Teachers

About Reading Rods®

Reading Rods are interlocking, color-coded manipulatives designed to supplement your phonics and reading program. They are the perfect tactile addition to your literacy lessons, and they can only be linked from left to right to reinforce the direction of reading and writing. Children of all reading and writing abilities enjoy linking the brightly colored, lightweight Reading Rods together to learn letters, spell words, and construct sentences.

Reading Rods are color-coded, so as children move from *Phonemic Awareness* lessons to *Word Families* lessons on to *Word Building* lessons, they will easily identify letter categories based on the Rod color alone. For example, individual consonant letter Rods are always blue, while vowel letter Rods are always red. Consonant blend and digraph rods are always green, and the Simple Sentences Reading Rods feature their own color-coded system designed to represent different parts of speech and punctuation marks.

Reading Rods *Simple Sentences Activity Book*

With the 30 lessons in this book, children practice working with the Rods and begin to develop reading skills. Each lesson serves as a written activity to allow you to assess children's understanding and growth. The topics are presented sequentially, so each lesson builds on prior knowledge while laying new foundations for learning to come.

As children work through these Reading Rods activities, they will begin to develop pre-reading and emergent reading skills and concepts, including the following:

- Learning about parts of speech and verb usage
- Understanding print concepts and word relationships
- Learning about basic sentence patterns
- Reviewing correct punctuation
- Learning about synonyms, antonyms, and homophones

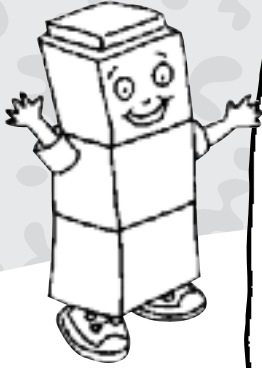
Enjoy using hands-on Reading Rods and the lessons in this book to reinforce reading instruction in your home or classroom!



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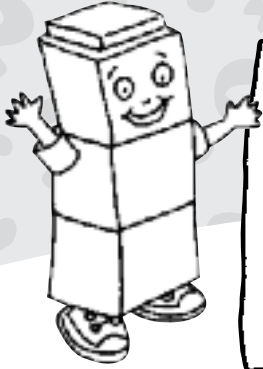


Know Your Nouns!

- Read each sentence below.
- Underline the noun in each sentence with a green crayon.
- Circle to tell if the noun names a person, place, or thing.
- Using Reading Rods, build each sentence.

1. I go to the park. (person place thing)
2. The woman is nice. (person place thing)
3. He hit the ball. (person place thing)
4. The snow is cold. (person place thing)
5. She ran home. (person place thing)
6. Can the man sing? (person place thing)
7. My teacher is smart. (person place thing)
8. The girl sat. (person place thing)





Pick the Pronouns

- Read each sentence below.
- Using Reading Rods, find the noun from each sentence and a pronoun that replaces it.
- Form a Rod train with the noun and pronoun in each sentence.

1. The girl ate.
2. Sara walks with the children.
3. The pumpkin is big.
4. The boy hit a ball.
5. Jason asked the man.
6. Martha got on the bus.
7. The woman sings.
8. The teacher's pants are red.



Lesson 3

Introducing and Exploring Compound Nouns

Name _____



Common Compounds

- Find the Rods listed below.
- Read the sentences, and build compound nouns to fill in the blanks.
- Write the compound noun in the blank.
- Build three more compound nouns.

snow

house

cake

bed

ball

pan

man

room

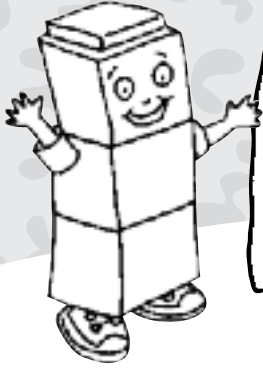
cup

doll

bath

light

1. I sleep in my _____.
2. Dad poured syrup on the _____.
3. The _____ hit the wall.
4. The sink is in the _____.
5. The _____ has icing on it.
6. We built a _____.
7. My mother gave me a _____.
8. The _____ is next to the ocean.



More Common Compounds

- Read each sentence below.
- Use a green crayon to underline each compound noun.

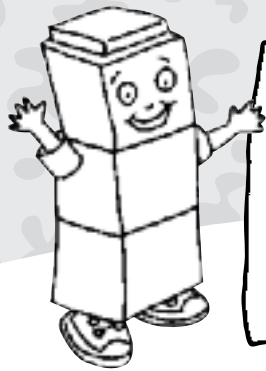
1. Kyle found a seashell on the beach.
2. We are going to the birthday party.
3. Jill and I have a good friendship.
4. My mom got a haircut.
5. We ate popcorn at the movie.
6. Shawn had breakfast before school.
7. Patti rang the doorbell.
8. I have homework to do.



Lesson 5

Introducing and Exploring Action Verbs

Name _____



What's Missing?

- Find the Rods listed below.
- Read each sentence, and use Rods to fill in the blanks.
- Write the verb in the blank.

read

play

walk

call

jump

ran

ride

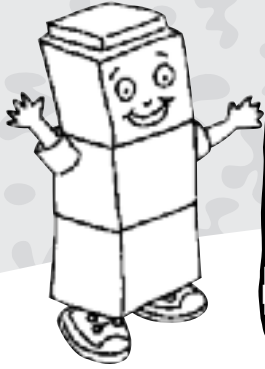
ate

1. John _____ the banana.
2. We can _____ a game.
3. My dog _____ away.
4. I _____ my bike.
5. Kim is going to _____ her mom.
6. The teacher _____ the book.
7. He can _____ to school.
8. I _____ on the bed.

Lesson 6

Introducing and
Exploring Action
Verbs

Name _____



Ride the Verb Train!

- Read the words in each list aloud.
- Find the verb Rod from each list.
- Put the Rods together to form a verb train.

1.

sit

hat

big

2.

ball

hit

new

3.

nice

girl

write

4.

climb

blue

home

5.

best

swim

shoe

6.

eat

rainy

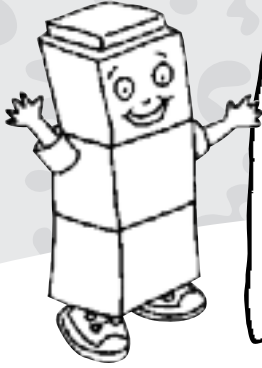
desk



Lesson 7

Introducing and Exploring Adjectives

Name _____



What's the Adjective?

- Read each sentence.
- Pick the Rod that best completes the sentence.
- Build three of the sentences.

1. It is a _____ day.

grapes

sat

rainy

2. The banana tastes _____.

ask

good

book

3. We have a _____ house.

nice

bike

dig

4. My dad is _____.

eat

smart

hat

5. The _____ kitten is on my lap.

banana

cute

get

6. I picked a _____ flower.

pretty

hop

pants

7. The family ate the _____ cake.

dig

baby

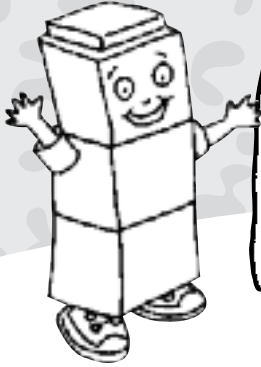
large

8. She has a _____ bike.

mitten

blue

give



All Over Adjectives

- Read the story below.
- Use a red crayon to circle the adjectives in the story.

The Pretty Flowers

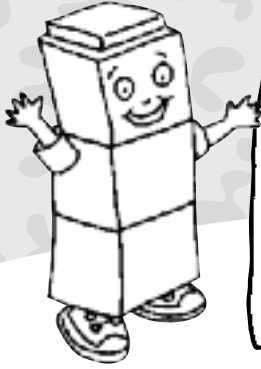
It is a sunny day. My little sister and I want to pick nice flowers for our mom. We walk around our big yard. I pick some blue flowers. My sister picks some white flowers. I find some big, yellow flowers. My sister finds some little flowers. Mom is happy. "These flowers are so pretty!" she said. My sister and I are glad Mom likes the flowers.



Lesson 9

Building Three- Word Simple Sentence Trains (N-V-N)

Name _____



Verbs on the Go!

- Read each sentence.
- Use a green crayon to underline each noun in the sentence.
- Use a yellow crayon to underline each verb in the sentence.

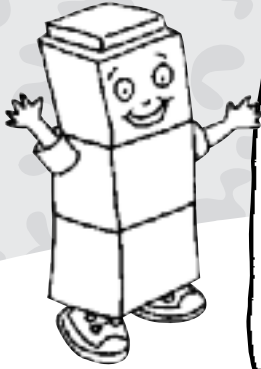
1. Mom ate chocolate.
2. I wash clothes.
3. She plays piano.
4. John painted the fence.
5. A broom sweeps dust.
6. The teacher grades papers.
7. The company makes cars.
8. Kathy paid the bill.



Lesson 10

Building Three- Word Simple Sentence Trains (N-V-N)

Name _____



Build a Train!

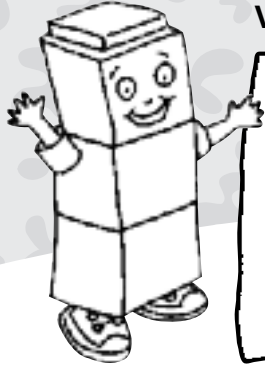
- Find the Rods in each list below.
- Build a N-V-N Rod train from the Rods in each list.
- Write each N-V-N train on a piece of paper. Be sure to add articles to make a complete sentence.

1.	hit	you	ball
2.	man	home	ran
3.	want	I	carrot
4.	teacher	read	book
5.	bus	She	ride
6.	eat	friend	grapes
7.	girl	banana	taste
8.	has	She	cat

Lesson 11

Introducing and
Exploring Verbs of
Being and Helping
Verbs (Linking Verbs)

Name _____



Help the Verb!

- Read each sentence below.
- Circle the linking verb with a yellow crayon.
- Build three sentences from the list below.

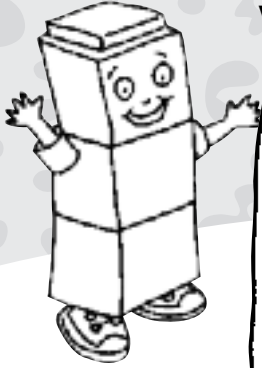
1. I am going to school.
2. Lupe is running down the street.
3. He can go to the park.
4. Dad did wash the floor.
5. She is nice.
6. I will write a book.
7. We are happy.
8. She has a new bike.



Lesson 12

Introducing and
Exploring Verbs of
Being and Helping
Verbs (Linking Verbs)

Name _____



Help Me Out!

- Read each sentence below.
- Read each linking verb in the box.
- Choose a verb from the box to write in each blank space in each sentence.

is

are

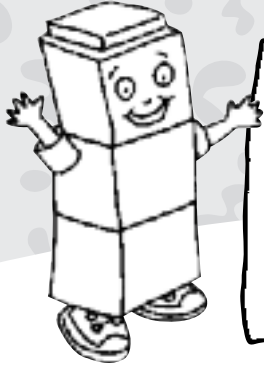
am

be

will

1. He _____ funny.
2. We _____ going home.
3. I _____ glad.
4. She _____ climbing the tree.
5. They will _____ there soon.
6. The girl _____ swim in the pool.
7. I _____ walking with my friends.
8. The children _____ riding their bikes.

Name _____



Pick Me!

- Read each sentence below.
- Pick the correct past tense verb from the box.
- Write the past tense verb on the line next to each sentence.

had

saw

ate

ran

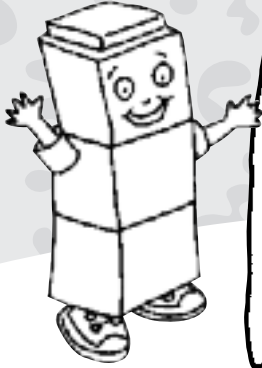
asked

played

threw

jumped

1. We play the game. _____
2. I throw the ball. _____
3. The family has a dog. _____
4. I jump in the puddle. _____
5. We see the truck. _____
6. I ask a question. _____
7. The soccer player runs down the field. _____
8. We eat spaghetti. _____



In the Past

- Read each sentence below.
- Change each verb to the past tense.
- Write the new sentence on each line.
- Using Rods, build each sentence using the past tense verb.

1. I eat grapes.

2. He gets new shoes.

3. My teacher asks me to write.

4. She climbs into bed.

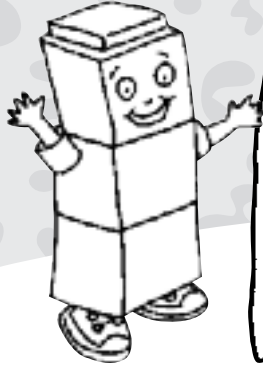
5. The woman walks home.

6. I sit in the bus.

7. You eat cake.

8. I learn to swim.

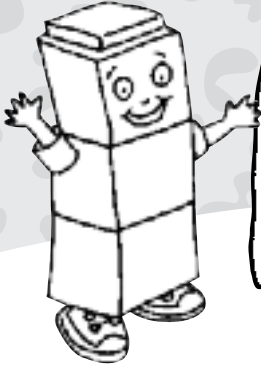
Name _____



Leave it Out!

- Read each sentence below.
- Change the two-word verb to a contraction.
- Write the contraction on the line next to each sentence.

1. I cannot ride my bike. _____
2. I do not want to eat my carrots. _____
3. The dog is not small. _____
4. The phone did not ring. _____
5. It is not sunny. _____
6. The woman cannot find her shoes. _____
7. We did not go outside today. _____
8. Our school is not far away. _____



Contraction Concentration

- Read each sentence below.
- Underline each contraction with a yellow crayon.

1. I can't play today.
2. He isn't going on the trip.
3. We aren't walking to school.
4. I don't have a blue crayon.
5. The dog doesn't jump.
6. The woman didn't make the cake.
7. You can't drive the car.
8. The train isn't moving.

