

Part 1

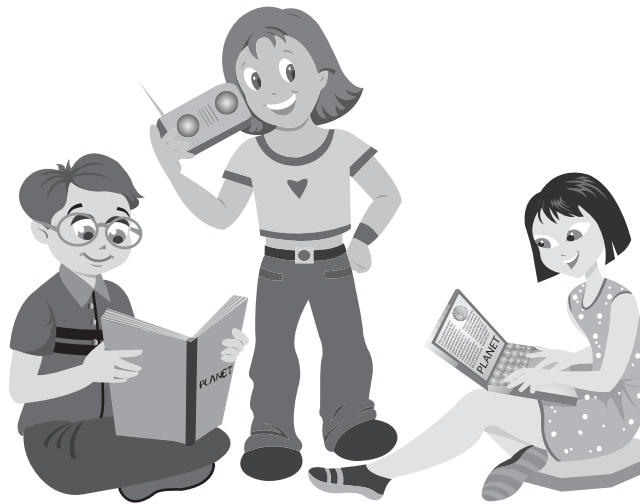
Specific Subject Area Activities

Reading Activities

Included in this chapter are activities designed to make reading more rewarding, more motivating, and simply more exciting! These activities are not meant to take the place of a good reading program but rather are intended to supplement such a program and support students' reading skills. They can be used to reinforce skills, to provide practice and repetition when necessary, and to enrich the curriculum.

The materials in this chapter lend themselves to various instructional methods, whether group or individual, student directed or teacher directed. Many of the activities can be used in learning or game centers, and many can be used in other curricular areas that involve the reading process.

The multilevel contracts, task cards, spinners, and worksheets offered in this chapter can be duplicated and used to support many of the skills necessary for reading. It is impossible, of course, to include all of the skills, but the materials can be used as beginning points for implementing your own ideas and to meet students' needs.



New Word Treasure Chest Contract

I, _____, agree to collect _____ new words for my New Word Treasure Chest, and I will complete _____ tasks to help me add to my word collection.

New Words

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New Word Treasure Chest: Getting Started

You will need a box and a set of blank word cards.

- ☐ 1. Get a box to use as your New Word Treasure Chest. The box should be big enough to hold three-by-five cards, but not too big.
- ☐ 2. Label the box with your name and a creative title.
- ☐ 3. Label each of twenty-six three-by-five cards with one letter of the alphabet.
- ☐ 4. File the lettered cards in your New Word Treasure Chest box in alphabetical order.
- ☐ 5. Use this box to store the word cards you will need for the following tasks.

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New Word Treasure Chest: Tasks

Now that you have created your New Word Treasure Chest box:

- ☐ 1. Write all of your new words, each on a separate card.
- ☐ 2. Trace and say each word on your new word cards _____ times.
- ☐ 3. Copy _____ of your words on a piece of paper.
- ☐ 4. Write or type your words without looking at the cards.
- ☐ 5. Draw a picture on each of _____ word cards that describes the word.
- ☐ 6. Use _____ of your words in sentences.
☐ Write ☐ Type ☐ Illustrate your sentences.
- ☐ 7. Read _____ of your words to a friend.
- ☐ 8. Make a dictionary in which you write the definitions of your new words.
- ☐ 9. Use your word cards with a multilevel gameboard.
- ☐ 10. Write a ☐ poem ☐ story ☐ song ☐ letter ☐ other using _____ of your new words.
- ☐ 11. Create a crossword puzzle using _____ of your new words.
- ☐ 12. Find _____ synonyms for _____ of your words.
- ☐ 13. Find _____ antonyms for _____ of your words.
- ☐ 14. Select _____ of your words. ☐ Add a prefix.
☐ Add a suffix.
- ☐ 15. Create as many little words as you can from _____ of your words.

Date

Write your sounds or words here:

[illegible]

Student



Phonics Tasks

Now that you are ready to work on phonics:

- ☐ 1. Name _____ words that begin with _____.
- ☐ 2. Make a _____ book. Use the following elements:
 - ☐ Consonants _____ ☐ Blends _____
 - ☐ Vowels _____ ☐ Digraphs _____
- ☐ 3. Name _____ words that end with _____.
- ☐ 4. Name _____ words that have _____ in the _____.
- ☐ 5. List _____ words from the _____ family.
- ☐ 6. Make up a _____ using _____ words from the _____ family.
- ☐ 7. Make a list of _____ words with the ☐ short ☐ long vowel _____.
- ☐ 8. Find _____ pictures of things that have the ☐ short ☐ long vowel sound _____.
- ☐ 9. Draw _____ pictures that have the same _____ sound as _____.
- ☐ 10. Make _____ flash cards of words that ☐ begin ☐ end with _____.
- ☐ 11. Create a card game with your flash cards.

Phonics Tasks *(continued)*

- ☐ 12. Use your flash cards to play ☐ a multilevel gameboard ☐ card game ☐ other.
- ☐ 13. Look in _____ and find _____ words that _____ with _____.
- ☐ 14. Make a phonics spinner with _____.
- ☐ 15. Use your phonics spinner to make _____ words.
- ☐ 16. Use your phonics spinner with a gameboard.
- ☐ 17. Find _____ words in your _____ that have _____ syllables.
- ☐ 18. Choose _____ words from your _____. Write them and tell how many syllables are in each.
- ☐ 19. Type on the computer _____ words that have _____ sounds.
- ☐ 20. Write a _____ using _____ words that _____ with _____.
- ☐ 21. Create your own activity.



Phonics Task Cards

Find the Rhymes



- ☐ Look up
- ☐ Write
- ☐ Tape
- ☐ Tell

all the words you can think of that rhyme with _____.

- Time yourself.
- Do it in _____ seconds.
- Have a friend time you for _____.

How Does It End?



- ☐ Look up
- ☐ Write
- ☐ Tape
- ☐ Tell

words that have the _____ ending.

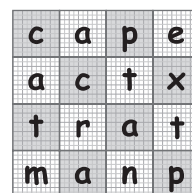
- Use each word in a sentence.
- Make a flash card for each word.
- Write each word _____ times.

The Vowel Owl



- Find all the _____ letter words you can that the Vowel Owl is hiding.
- Let the Vowel Owl help you find _____ words in which the
 - ☐ consonant _____
 - ☐ short vowel _____
 - ☐ long vowel _____
 are checked.

Graph Paper Goodies



- Cut out a _____ by _____ square of graph paper.
- In different places on the square, write in _____ words that contain the
 - ☐ short
 - ☐ long
 vowel sound _____.
- Give the puzzle to a friend to find your words.

Phonics Task Cards *(continued)*

Graph Paper Graphics

Cut out _____ strips of graph paper.
Make some _____ squares long.
Make others _____ squares long.
Use your _____ to find words
with the same number of letters. Use
words that have the _____ sound
at the _____ of the word. Paste
your word strips on a piece of paper.

C A T

C R A B

Long and Short

Cut out _____ strips of
graph paper of different lengths. Make
_____ words with the

☐ short

☐ long

vowel sound _____.

Mix them up.

- Unscramble your strips. Make a long-vowel pile and a short-vowel pile.
- Give your strips to _____
to unscramble into long- and short-vowel piles.

f a t

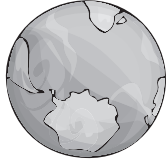
f a t e

m a n

m a n e

Phonics Task Cards *(continued)*

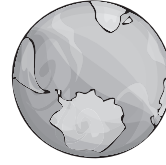
Keeping Tabs



Use _____ pages from _____.

- ☐ List words you find with short vowels.
- ☐ List words you find with long vowels.
- ☐ List words you find with blends.
- ☐ List words you find with silent E.
- ☐ List words you find with _____.

How Does It End?



☐ Look up

☐ Write

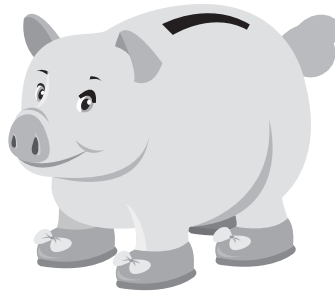
☐ Tape

☐ Tell

words that have the _____ ending.

- Use each word in a sentence.
- Make a flash card for each word.
- Write each word _____ times.

Phonics Activities



Alphabet Bank

___a ___b ___c ___d ___e ___f ___g ___h ___i ___j
___k ___l ___m ___n ___o ___p ___q ___r ___s ___t
___u ___v ___w ___x ___y ___z

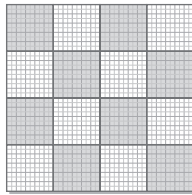
- ☐ Each vowel is worth _____ cents.
- ☐ Give each consonant a value between 1 cent and _____ cents.
- ☐ Make up _____ words using the letters _____.
- ☐ How much is each word worth for your bank account?
- ☐ What word is
 - ☐ most expensive?
 - ☐ least expensive?
- ☐ Time yourself. How much money can you save in _____ minutes? Write as many words as you can in that time and total their worth.
- ☐ How many words can you make that cost exactly _____ cents?

Phonics Activities *(continued)*

Graph Paper Crosswords

Cut out _____ strips of graph paper. Paste them on a piece of paper in crossword puzzle form. Make a crossword puzzle using words with the _____ sound

- ☐ at the beginning
- ☐ in the middle
- ☐ at the end
- ☐ anywhere



A black and white illustration of a boy and a girl sitting cross-legged and reading books. The boy on the left has curly hair and is wearing a striped shirt and dark pants. The girl on the right has short, dark hair and is wearing a polka-dot shirt and shorts. Both are smiling and holding open books.

Date completed _____

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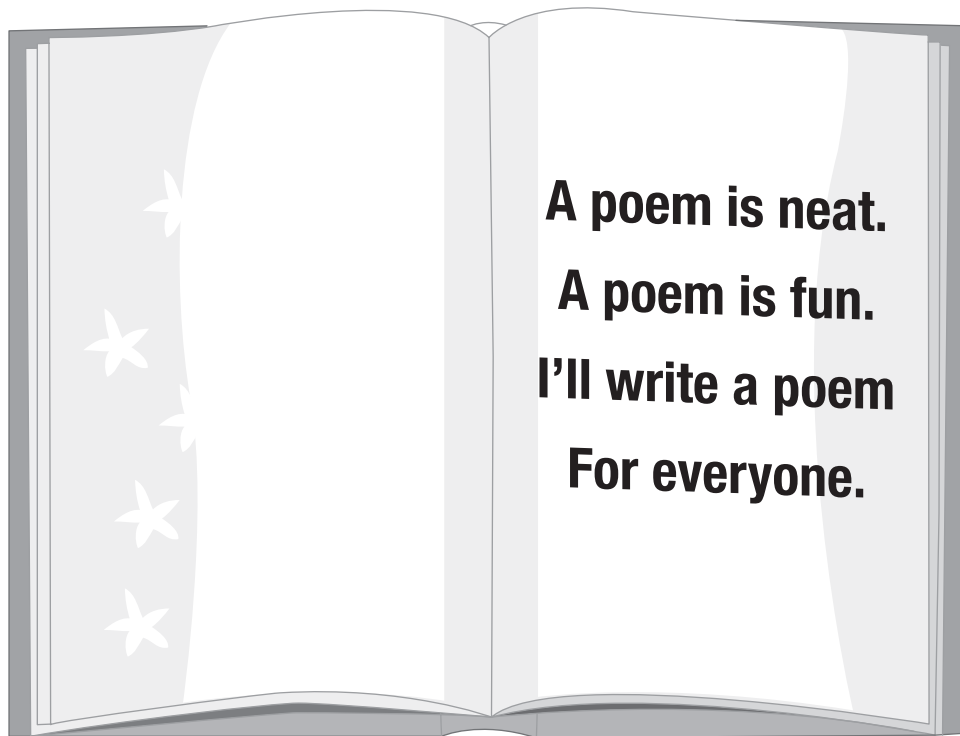
Book Report Tasks

- ☐ 1. ☐ Write ☐ Record a _____ about the book.
- ☐ 2. Describe _____ of the main characters.
- ☐ 3. Create a new cover for the book.
- ☐ 4. Create a
 - ☐ TV ad ☐ Newspaper ad ☐ Diorama
 - ☐ Radio ad ☐ Poster ☐ Video
- ☐ 5. With _____, write about one day using characters from the book.
- ☐ 6. _____ a sequel to the book.
- ☐ 7. Create _____ new titles for the book.
- ☐ 8. Make a puppet of your favorite character.
- ☐ 9. Make pictures about your book. Mix up the pictures. Have a friend put them in the correct order.
- ☐ 10. ☐ Write ☐ Record a different ending for the book.
- ☐ 11. Create and perform a puppet show about the book ☐ by yourself ☐ with _____.
- ☐ 12. Pantomime a scene from the book.
- ☐ 13. ☐ Write ☐ Record a book review for the newspaper.
- ☐ 14. Pick a _____ from the book. List as many words you can think of to describe it.
- ☐ 15. Role-play a radio interview with the author of the book.
- ☐ 16. Make a costume for one of the characters in the book.
- ☐ 17. ☐ Write ☐ Record the part of the book you like best.
- ☐ 18. ☐ Write ☐ Record a story about the character
 - ☐ You like best ☐ You would like to be
 - ☐ You like least ☐ You would like to add to the book
- ☐ 19. Create some sound effects for your book.
- ☐ 20. Choose music to go with the book.
- ☐ 21. Read _____ of the book to _____.
- ☐ 22. Make a wanted poster for the villain of the book.
- ☐ 23. Make a comic strip about the book.
- ☐ 24. Draw a picture of a scene from the book. Cut it into a puzzle.
 - ☐ Put it back together again.
 - ☐ Give it to _____ to put together.

Book Report Tasks *(continued)*

- ☐ 25. Make a mobile about characters in the book.
- ☐ 26. ☐ Write ☐ Record
 - ☐ Events in the story that could *not* happen in real life.
 - ☐ Events in the story that *could* happen in real life.
 - ☐ Events you would *like* to have happen to you.
 - ☐ Events you would *not* like to have happen to you.
- ☐ 27. Create a timeline of events in the story.
- ☐ 28. Write a letter
 - ☐ To the author of the book, telling what you liked about it.
 - ☐ To a character in the book.
- ☐ 29. Create a news bulletin about the book.
- ☐ 30. Create a bookmark about the book.
- ☐ 31. Write a list of new words from the book.
- ☐ 32. Tell _____ about the book.
- ☐ 33. Read _____ book(s) by the same author.
- ☐ 34. Compose a song about the book.
- ☐ 35. Pretend you are a character in the book. ☐ Write ☐ Record
 - ☐ Draw what you feel about what happens to you in the book.
- ☐ 36. Make a mobile about different settings in the book.
- ☐ 37. Create your own activity.





Poetry Contract

I, _____, agree to be
poet laureate for _____ tasks and will complete these tasks
by _____.
Date _____

Teacher

Poet Laureate



Poetry Tasks

Now that you are ready to write poems:

- ☐ 1. Make a list of as many words as you can think of that rhyme with _____.
- ☐ 2. Choose a friend to rhyme with. Select _____ words and ask your friend to find rhymes for them. Then find rhymes for your friend's words.
- ☐ 3. Select _____ words. Find _____ words that rhyme with each.
- ☐ 4. Make _____ sets of flash cards with rhyming words. Put one word on each card. Then use your cards to:
 - ☐ Match the words into rhyming pairs.
 - ☐ Give your cards to _____ to match the rhyming words.
 - ☐ Use your cards with a multilevel gameboard.
- ☐ 5. Write _____ rhyming sentences using _____ of your words.
- ☐ 6. Create a poem using _____ of your words.
 - ☐ Write ☐ Type ☐ Recite ☐ Memorize
- ☐ 7. Choose _____ kinds of poems.
 - ☐ Find _____ examples of that kind of poem.
 - ☐ Describe the ☐ rhyming ☐ theme ☐ style of the poem.
 - ☐ Create a poem in the same style.
 - ☐ Write ☐ Type ☐ Recite ☐ Memorize
- ☐ 8. ☐ Write ☐ Type a poem about

<input type="checkbox"/> Your best friend	<input type="checkbox"/> Your favorite _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Your pet	<input type="checkbox"/> A color
<input type="checkbox"/> Nature	<input type="checkbox"/> A film or TV star
<input type="checkbox"/> School	<input type="checkbox"/> Your family
<input type="checkbox"/> A feeling	<input type="checkbox"/> Your troubles
<input type="checkbox"/> A holiday	<input type="checkbox"/> Other _____

Poetry Tasks *(continued)*

- ☐ 9. Select a poet.
 - ☐ Read _____ book(s) about the poet's life.
 - ☐ Write a description of
 - ☐ the poet
 - ☐ the poet's writing style
 - ☐ the subject(s) the poet writes about
 - ☐ Write a _____ in the style of the poet.
 - ☐ Read _____ poems written by this poet.
 - ☐ Write ☐ Type ☐ Illustrate one of the poet's poems.
- ☐ 10. ☐ Read ☐ Write ☐ Type a _____ poem.
 - ☐ Illustrate the poem.
 - ☐ Put the poem to music.
 - ☐ Memorize the poem.
 - ☐ Recite the poem to _____.
 - ☐ Create a greeting card with the poem.
 - ☐ Create a poster of the poem.
- ☐ 11. Design a poetry task of your choice! Have fun!

