

# Scholastic Phonics Workbooks

## Product Overview

**Scholastic Phonics Workbooks** provide students with reinforcement of explicit, systematic phonics instruction and purposeful reading and writing practice. All learners experience success with the program's built-in diagnosis, intervention, and differentiated instruction. Components include:

- Teacher's Guide with step-by-step lesson plans; assessment tools; and picture, letter, and word cards
- Pupil Workbook, which includes practice activities, Take-Home Books, Tear-out Flash Cards, and self-assessments
- Teacher's Book for English Language Learning, written specifically to teach phonics to students who are acquiring English
- Audio CDs that present phonics sounds, vocabulary, poems, and stories

### **Instructional Content**

The research-based **Scholastic Phonics Workbooks** program integrates with spelling, social studies, art, writing, mathematics, science, and other curricula. It contains a complete handwriting program for Kindergarten and Grade 1. The **Phonics Workbooks** program aligns with the *No Child Left Behind Act of 2001*.

#### **Phonemic Awareness**

- Instruction includes oral segmentation, oral blending, alliteration, oddity tasks, and phonemic manipulation.
- Students learn phonemic awareness skills through teacher modeling and in the context of poems, rhymes, and songs.

#### **Phonics**

- Children learn consonants, short vowels (Level K); blends, digraphs, long vowels (Level A); blends, digraphs, complex vowels, and diphthongs (Level B).
- Students repeatedly practice newly learned and previously learned skills.
- Lessons contain decodable songs, poems, and stories.

#### **Fluency**

- Children reread the Take-Home Book stories on their own, "round-robin" style, with a partner, and chorally to build fluency and increase reading rate.
- Teachers and narrators on Audio CDs model fluent reading.

#### **Vocabulary**

- Every unit introduces and reviews high-frequency words.
- As they read stories, rhymes, and poems, students learn new words in context.

#### **Comprehension**

- Children preview the Take-Home Book and predict what they think it is about.
- After reading the story, children share their reactions to it. They complete the book with a drawing or writing activity.

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### **Instructional Design**

**Scholastic Phonics Workbooks**, which are available in three levels (K, A, B), benefit children in Kindergarten through Grade 3. Unit lessons in the Teacher's Guide are divided into two main sections:

- **Teach**. Teachers use direct instruction, modeling, and "Think Alouds" to help children develop and review phonemic awareness and phonics skills. Lessons introduce and review high-frequency words. Teachers guide students through previewing and predicting strategies before they read the book.
- **Read and Write**. Students build words and sentences, review blending and sound-symbol correspondences, and write dictated words and sentences. Teachers read the Take-Home Book aloud while students follow along. Children reread the story, share their reactions to it, and complete an exercise at the end. After teachers read aloud the directions, students complete phonics and writing activities in the workbook.

Units also provide support for all learners, including hands-on activities; how to integrate the program into curricula; assessment tools; connections to other phonics programs; and lists of related books for additional reading practice.

### **Assessments**

Every unit of the Pupil Book and the Teacher's Guide incorporates a variety of formal and informal assessment opportunities.

### **Diagnostic**

Teachers administer formal end-of-unit and multiunit tests, which employ a standardized test format, to diagnose student ability with specific words, sounds, phonics skills, and structural analysis strategies. Each lesson includes a QuickCheck that helps teachers gauge students' mastery of taught phonics and phonemic awareness skills, as well as high-frequency words. Lessons that contain a Take-Home Book provide comprehension questions for assessing student understanding of the story.

### **Progress Monitoring**

The Teacher's Guide contains a comprehensive skills checklist for recording each child's baseline and developing phonemic awareness and phonics skills. Teachers review student work, test results, and observations to track students' reading and writing achievement. The program also provides students with self-assessment opportunities: They compile a portfolio of their work and review the contents to gauge and discuss their progress. Those in level A and B use the "I Can Read" activity in the **Phonics Workbook** to evaluate their growing ability to transfer taught phonics skills to new decodable words and to read high-frequency words.

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### **Motivation and Engagement**

Children learn high-frequency words and key sound-spelling relationships at the outset. Therefore, they can immediately get the satisfaction and reinforcement of making sense of the text. Colorful photographs and illustrations relate to the exercises on the page and contribute to children's success and confidence. Playful activities and humorous poems connect learning with fun.

### **Intervention Strategies**

Teachers use assessment results to guide instruction. For students who need extra help, teachers provide additional modeling, review skills, and supply children with targeted support activities. Teachers also differentiate instruction to accommodate tactile, visual, kinesthetic, and auditory learners, as well as those who need challenge.

**Scholastic Phonics Workbooks** contain features that meet the needs of children acquiring English. These include hundreds of color photographs of useful, common words to illustrate vocabulary in context. Suggested activities focus on concrete tasks and relating concepts to the children's lives. Units include activities for English as a Second Language students. In addition, the program offers a Teacher's Book for English Language Learning. This guide contains lessons specifically designed to teach phonics to English Language Learners. Lessons also provide ideas for extension activities based on the stories in the Take-Home Books.

### **Home-School Connection**

A Parent Letter, available in English or Spanish, explains the program, provides suggestions for home learning activities, and invites parents to communicate with the school about their child's literacy development. Children read Take-Home Books to a family member. Units contain additional ideas to connect home and school learning.

### **Professional Development**

The **Scholastic Phonics Workbooks** Teacher's Guides present specific instructional strategies for helping students develop phonemic awareness, learn high-frequency words, and read decodable text. Ideas are included for supporting all learners, including those with tactile, visual, kinesthetic, and auditory learning preferences, students acquiring English, children who need extra help, and those who need to be challenged. Teachers learn ways to integrate technology into the phonics program.

The *Scholastic Red* facilitated, online course, "Putting Reading First in Your Classroom, Grades K-2," also supports the program. The course lessons cover strategies for teaching the five essential elements of reading: phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension. This professional development solution provides:

- Instant access to research and theory
- Video modeling of research-based practices
- Interactive simulations that allow for practice of skills and strategies
- Structured feedback, collaboration, and ongoing support
- Materials that can be immediately used in the classroom