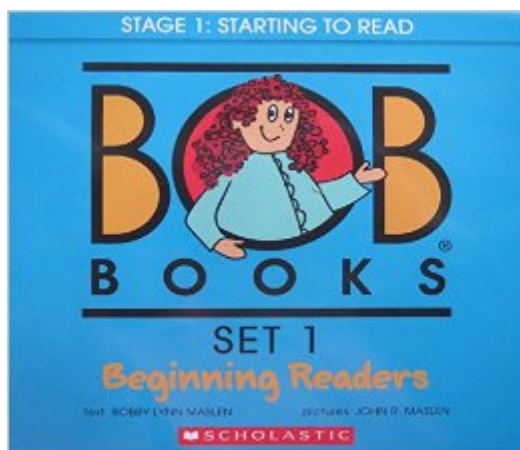


The book was found

Bob Books, Set 1: Beginning Readers



Synopsis

Teach a child letter sounds with Bob Books Set 1! With four letters in the first story, children can read a whole book. Consistent new sounds are added gradually, until young readers have read books with all letters of the alphabet (except Q). Short vowels and three-letter words in simple sentences make Bob Books Set 1 a fun confidence builder. With little books, come big success. (TM)

Book Information

Paperback: 16 pages

Publisher: Scholastic; Box Pck edition (May 1, 2006)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0439845009

ISBN-13: 978-0439845007

Product Dimensions: 1.8 x 5.8 x 5.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 10.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 starsÂ Â See all reviewsÂ (1,099 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #233 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #2 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction > Chapter Books & Readers > Beginner Readers #2 inÂ Office Products > Educational Supplies > Early Childhood Education Materials #76 inÂ Books > Reference

Age Range: 4 - 8 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 3

Customer Reviews

To see more reviews, check out the item in its previous packaging (the content has not changed) by looking up ISBN 0439145449. Bob Books come in 5 sets on 3 levels, and they cover the fundamentals of reading through about half of the Kindergarten level, which is lower than either of the other programs. Each set contains 8-12 books for the child to read, with a line or two of text per page. Unlike many programs, there is little to no direction for the parent. However, they are carefully crafted to introduce the sounds in a systematic and maximally rewarding way, as well as carefully choosing sight words. The very first book requires that the child know the sounds of only four letters (M, A, S, T) and one sight word (on). The rest of the first set of 12 books (12 pages each) introduces the rest of the alphabet and short-vowel sounds, carefully reviewing everything learned, as well as a handful of high-utility sight words. The second set of 12 books (12 pages each) reinforces what was learned in the first set with more text per page, more plurals, more sight words, and a few blends.

The second level begins with the third set, which has 10 books (16 pages each) and introduces more text, more blends, and some compound words, while the fourth set (4 with 16 pages and 4 with 24 pages) has more blends, more sight words, and long compound words. The final set, in the third level (4 with 16 pages and 4 with 24 pages), has longer stories and introduces long vowels. The thing my son likes most is that I'm not telling him what to do most of the time, and he doesn't have to repeat books! Some parents find that the level of progression slows after the first set, but we're going to do them all. It helps my son acquire speed and fluency painlessly.

I have to admit, when I first got the Bob Books for my son, I was very excited about them. I thought the gradual pace of vowel and consonant introduction would make reading easier and give a natural progression. My 4-year old son read the first 3 or 4 books in the series, we were both excited, and all was well. I was thinking 4 or 5 stars. Then within a week, my son refused to read the books. I knew that he could - he was certainly capable - but anytime I mentioned them, he would whine, complain and tell me that he didn't want to. This from the boy who is a book nut and would have me read to him 24-7 if possible! He would sit with me so I could read other books to him, and even try to read them himself, but wanted nothing to do with the Bob Books. This went on for months with the same response. It wasn't until I started doing a bunch of literacy reading and research for my job that I realized the probable reason why the Bob Books are gathering dust on our shelves when all of the other books are well loved. They are dull. They are boring and can hardly be qualified as stories. Does anyone really talk like that? "Mat sat. Cat sat. Mat and cat sat." No wonder he would rather I read him books like "The Complete Book of Farmyard Tales" by Heather Amery or "Frederick" by Leo Lionni or classic tales like "The Gingerbread Man" or "The Fox and the Crow." In my research, I came across two books that I highly recommend to anyone who wants their child to learn to read. These are "The Read Aloud Handbook" by Jim Trelease and "Reading Magic" by Mem Fox. Trelease talks about the pleasure aspect of reading - humans want to do things that give them pleasure and shy away from things that don't, it's just human nature.

When it comes to learning how to read, there are 2 ways of teaching your child: 1. You start your child with the basic phonics and slowly work your way up. This approach is mostly phonics-based. It's the philosophy behind reading programs such as Hooked on Phonics Learn to Read, The Berenstain Bears Phonics Fun or the Bob Books. OR 2. You have your child learn hundreds of words randomly (sight words, phonics, plain memorization, etc). The aim is to have them recognize hundreds of words as they open any book (especially sight words which make up 75% of

Elementary school text). This is the philosophy behind reading systems such as Little Champion Reader system. A child learns how to read in a manner similar to how they learned how to speak a language. First there are a few words, then there are bigger chunks of phrases and finally there are fluent sentences. I have done some research on both ways and here is my conclusion:-- The first method is probably the most common as it's more simplistic in its concept. The main advantage is that it helps build a child's confidence in reading right from the start and helps parents visualize the end goal (based on the difficulty of the ending books).

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