

Reading Explorer Challenge

GRADE 1

Pagel Design Co.





READING EXPLORER CHALLENGE

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READING EXPLORER CHALLENGE GRADE 1



Welcome to the Reading Explorer Challenge!

Congratulations on taking the first step toward making reading an exciting part of your family's year! This book list and reading challenge are designed to help your 1st grader grow as a reader, explore a variety of genres, and create lasting memories through the magic of books.

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How to Use This Book List at Home

Explore Different Categories

- The book list is organized into fun and engaging categories, such as "Classic Favorites," "Animal and Nature-Themed Books," "Adventure and Fantasy," and more. Encourage your child to pick books from various categories to broaden their reading horizons.
- This approach will help your child discover new genres, topics, and authors they might love!



Set a Reading Goal

- Decide as a family how many books your child will aim to read over the school year. For example, you could set a goal of reading one book from each category or completing a specific number of books from the list.
- To make the challenge even more rewarding, break the goal into smaller milestones, such as reading 5, 10, or 20 books, and celebrate each achievement.



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Celebrate Progress

- Once your child reaches their reading goal, use the included Certificate of Achievement to recognize their hard work! Celebrating milestones builds confidence and motivates them to keep reading.
- You can also create family traditions like a "Reading Reward Night," where you watch a movie based on a favorite book or enjoy a special treat.

Incorporate Reading into Your Routine

- Set aside dedicated reading time each day or week. Even 15 minutes of reading before bed can make a big difference!
- Encourage your child to read both independently and aloud with the family. Reading aloud builds confidence, fluency, and comprehension, while independent reading fosters focus and a love of books.



Choose Books That Match Their Interests

- Let your child take the lead in selecting books from the list. If they are excited about the topic or characters, they're more likely to stick with it!
- Feel free to supplement the list with books from your local library or bookstore that spark their curiosity.

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Why Reading Aloud Matters



- Reading aloud with your child is a powerful way to:
 - Build their listening comprehension skills.
 - Expose them to more complex vocabulary and sentence structures.
 - Spark meaningful conversations about characters, themes, and lessons in the story.

At the same time, independent reading is equally important for building focus, fluency, and confidence. Find a balance between the two that works for your family!

Tips for a Successful Reading Challenge

- **Make It Fun:** Create a cozy reading corner, let your child use a fun bookmark, or add stickers to the reading log for each book finished.
- **Be Flexible:** If a book isn't capturing your child's interest, it's okay to switch to a different one. The goal is to nurture a love of reading.
- **Encourage Conversations:** Ask questions about the story to help your child think critically and connect with what they're reading. Examples: "What was your favorite part?" or "How would you have solved that problem?"
- **Model Reading:** Let your child see you reading too! It's a great way to show that reading is a lifelong activity.



What's Included



- Curated Book List: A diverse collection of books organized by category, perfect for readers.
- Reading Log Template: A simple and fun way to track your child's progress throughout the year. Select from various templates to suit your reading goals.
- Certificate of Achievement: Celebrate your child's success when they reach their reading goals!

1st Grade

Early Readers (Great for Independent Reading)

- ☐ Elephant & Piggie Series – Mo Willems
- ☐ Biscuit Series – Alyssa Satin Capucilli
- ☐ Fly Guy Series – Tedd Arnold
- ☐ Frog and Toad Series – Arnold Lobel
- ☐ Henry and Mudge Series – Cynthia Rylant
- ☐ Little Bear Series – Else Holmelund Minarik
- ☐ The Pigeon Books – Mo Willems
- ☐ I Like to Read Series – Assorted Authors
- ☐ Ling & Ting: Not Exactly the Same! – Grace Lin
- ☐ Dodsworth in New York – Tim Egan

Fiction (Some Independent, Some With Support)

- ☐ Clark the Shark – Bruce Hale
- ☐ Pete the Cat: Play Ball! – James Dean
- ☐ Max and the Tag-Along Moon – Floyd Cooper
- ☐ Giraffes Can't Dance – Giles Andreae
- ☐ Jabari Jumps – Gaia Cornwall
- ☐ Stand Tall, Molly Lou Melon – Patty Lovell
- ☐ The Gruffalo – Julia Donaldson
- ☐ Llama Llama Loves to Read – Anna Dewdney

1st Grade

Adventure & Fantasy (Independent & Support)

- ☐ The Magic Tree House Series – Mary Pope Osborne
- ☐ How to Catch a Unicorn – Adam Wallace
- ☐ Room on the Broom – Julia Donaldson
- ☐ The Book with No Pictures by B.J. Novak
- ☐ We Don't Eat Our Classmates by Ryan T. Higgins
- ☐ Giggle, Giggle, Quack by Doreen Cronin
- ☐ The Monster at the End of This Book by Jon Stone
- ☐ If You Give a Mouse a Cookie by Laura Numeroff
- ☐ Arnie the Doughnut by Laurie Keller
- ☐ There's a Monster in Your Book by Tom Fletcher

Series Books for Emerging Readers

- ☐ Magic Tree House Series by Mary Pope Osborne
- ☐ Ivy and Bean Series by Annie Barrows
- ☐ Junie B. Jones Series by Barbara Park
- ☐ A to Z Mysteries Series by Ron Roy
- ☐ Flat Stanley Series by Jeff Brown
- ☐ Geronimo Stilton Series by Geronimo Stilton
- ☐ Horrible Harry Series by Suzy Kline
- ☐ Cam Jansen Series by David A. Adler

1st Grade

Social Emotional Learning (Great for Reading Together)

- ☐ The Day You Begin – Jacqueline Woodson
- ☐ Be Kind – Pat Zietlow Miller
- ☐ The Invisible Boy – Trudy Ludwig
- ☐ Each Kindness – Jacqueline Woodson
- ☐ Listening with My Heart – Gabi Garcia
- ☐ Giraffes Can't Dance – Giles Andreae
- ☐ I Am Enough – Grace Byers
- ☐ A Little Spot of Kindness – Diane Alber
- ☐ You Are Special – Max Lucado
- ☐ The Lion Inside – Rachel Bright

Adventure and Imagination

- ☐ Where the Wild Things Are – Maurice Sendak
- ☐ Elmer – David McKee
- ☐ There's a Dragon in Your Book – Tom Fletcher
- ☐ Pinkalicious and the Pink Drink – Victoria Kann
- ☐ Mr. Putter & Tabby Series – Cynthia Rylant
- ☐ Captain Awesome to the Rescue – Stan Kirby
- ☐ Baby Shark and the Magic Wand – Pinkfong
- ☐ If I Had a Gryphon – Vikki VanSickle

1st Grade

Non-Fiction (With Support)

- ☐ Who Was Martin Luther King, Jr.? – Bonnie Bader
- ☐ Counting on Katherine by Helaine Becker
- ☐ A Nest Is Noisy – Dianna Hutts Aston
- ☐ The Magic School Bus: Inside the Human Body – Joanna Cole
- ☐ The Most Magnificent Thing by Ashley Spires
- ☐ National Geographic Kids: Planets – Elizabeth Carney
- ☐ What Do You Do With an Idea? by Kobi Yamada
- ☐ Shark Lady by Jess Keating
- ☐ Over and Under the Pond by Kate Messner
- ☐ Honeybee: The Busy Life of Apis Mellifera – Candace Fleming

Seasonal Favorites

- ☐ The Snowy Day by Ezra Jack Keats
- ☐ And Then It's Spring – Julie Fogliano
- ☐ The Mitten by Jan Brett
- ☐ The Tiny Seed – Eric Carle
- ☐ A Camping Spree with Mr. Magee – Chris Van Dusen
- ☐ Turkey Trouble by Wendi Silvano
- ☐ Snowmen at Night by Caralyn Buehner
- ☐ Owl Moon – Jane Yolen

1st Grade

Poetry and Rhymes

- ☐ Where the Sidewalk Ends by Shel Silverstein
- ☐ A Light in the Attic by Shel Silverstein
- ☐ If Not for the Cat – Jack Prelutsky
- ☐ National Geographic Kids: Poetry Book – J. Patrick Lewis
- ☐ You Read to Me, I'll Read to You – Mary Ann Hoberman
- ☐ Daniel Finds a Poem by Micha Archer
- ☐ Hi, Koo!: A Year of Seasons by Jon J Muth
- ☐ The Giving Tree by Shel Silverstein
- ☐ Guess How Much I Love You by Sam McBratney
- ☐ Bear Snores On by Karma Wilson

Mystery (With Support)

- ☐ Young Cam Jansen and the Lost Tooth – David A. Adler
- ☐ Nate the Great– Marjorie Weinman Sharmat
- ☐ Detective Dinosaur – James Skofield
- ☐ Scooby-Doo! The Haunted Diner – Gail Herman
- ☐ King & Kayla and the Case of the Missing Dog Treats –
Dori Hillestad Butler

READING EXPLORER BOOK LIST

1st Grade

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1st Grade

More First Grade Favorites

- ☐ Pumpkin Jack – Will Hubbell
- ☐ Hello Lighthouse – Sophie Blackall
- ☐ The Three Little Superpigs – Claire Evans
- ☐ Sheep in a Jeep – Nancy Shaw
- ☐ Duck on a Bike – David Shannon

New Favorites

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LOG

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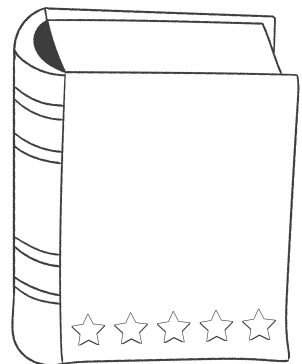
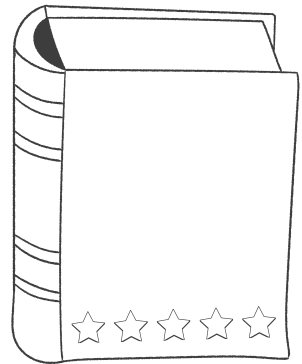
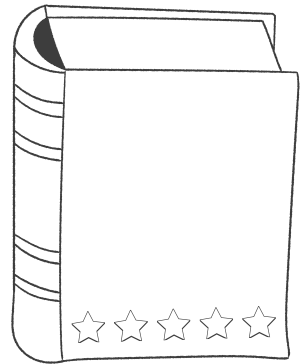
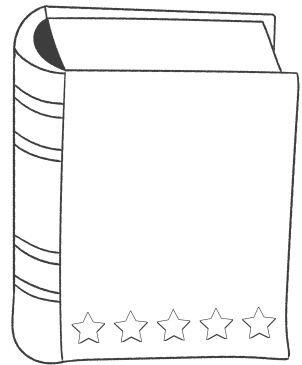
Reading Explorer

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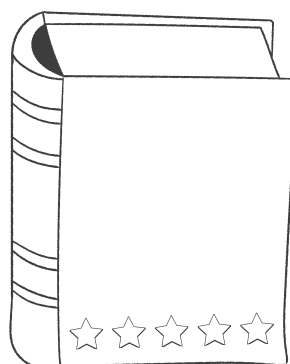
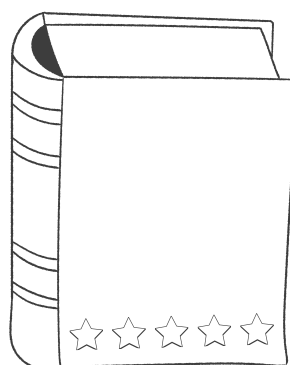
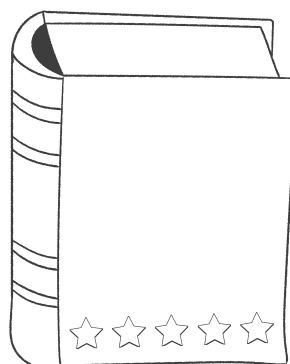
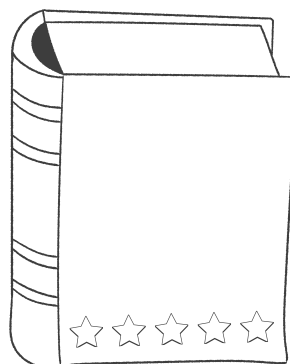
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Book Tracker



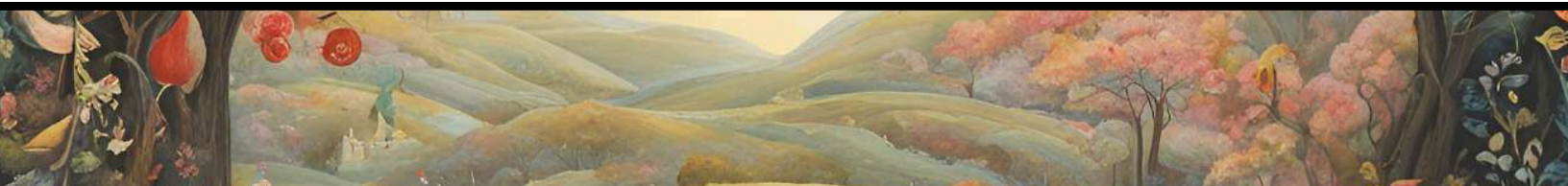
Book Tracker





READING LOG

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READING LOG

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CERTIFICATE OF COMPLETION

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT

COMPLETED THE GRADE 1
READING EXPLORER CHALLENGE

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Date

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Authorized by:

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THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT

COMPLETED A GRADE 1
READING EXPLORER CHALLENGE GOAL

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