

*Blumenfeld's*  
**Alpha-Phonics<sup>®</sup>**

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**First Readers**  
**Book 10**

*For readers who have  
completed Lesson 128*



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**FIRST READERS**

**Book 10**

For readers who have completed Lesson 128

## ***For Parents and Tutors***

The words in this reader comprise all of the letter sounds and spellings learned in Lessons 1 through 128 in *Blumenfeld's Alpha-Phonics*.

Virtually the entire range of our spelling forms will be found in this reader. However, you may want to go back to some of the earlier readers to give the learner additional practice by rereading the simpler texts and increasing the speed of word recognition. Also, further reading of all sorts of texts is necessary if the learner is to expand his or her knowledge of our English alphabetic system.

Since there are many more multisyllabic words in this book, the reader may find it somewhat difficult. Always have the reader spell out the word he or she is having trouble with. This forces the reader to focus attention on the left to right sequencing of the letters, and is usually enough to evoke a correct reading. However, with multisyllabic words, it is sometimes necessary to break the word up into its syllables. On text pages 10 and 11, we have broken up most of the multisyllabic words used in this book. Refer to those pages if the reader is having difficulty.

Although Book 10 is the last of the Alpha-Phonics First Readers, we have added Book 11, which is an anthology of simple poems for the beginning reader along with the words of our best-known patriotic songs. Our aim is to help the reader learn to appreciate good poetry and instill in the individual that patriotic sentiment so essential in developing love of country.

## **A Nursing Career**

Many young girls think about becoming nurses. They want to serve others by taking care of them when they are ill. It is a very noble kind of work. But nurses learn very early that it is hard work and that they may not earn much money at first.

A nurse who becomes an expert at what she does can become a head nurse. She knows how to give tender loving care and is worth the money she earns. If you are thinking of becoming a nurse, read a book about the life of a nurse. It will inspire you.

By the way, there are also many male nurses. A male nurse is a man who has taken up nursing as a career. Men can also give tender loving care to the sick and enjoy helping people get well.

## **Andy Finds a Turtle**

Andy found a little turtle crossing the road. It was having quite a struggle getting to the other side. So Andy picked it up and carried it to the other side. He set it down on a rock, but the turtle tumbled off onto its back. Its legs were wriggling and its tail wiggled back and forth. So Andy picked it up and set it down right side up. The turtle then made its way into a grassy jungle.

Andy started to walk home. He stopped to toss a pebble into a nearby stream, and the pebble made a ripple in the water. Andy then saw an eagle fly overhead. It began to drizzle and the wind rustled the leaves on the trees. Andy thought that he had better hustle on home before he was caught in the rain.

When Andy got home, his mother asked him where he had been. He told her about the turtle. "Andy," his mother said, "you have a kind heart. I'm proud of you."

## **Learning Phonics**

The best way to learn to read is with phonics. Our alphabet letters stand for speech sounds. If you learn the sounds that the letters stand for, you will be able to read anything you want.

To be good at phonics, you must do a lot of practice reading, sounding out all of the new words you find. The more you read, the easier it gets. That's because the more often you see the same word and the same spelling, you no longer have to sound it out. With practice, you will soon find that you will be able to say the word right away.

Phonics also helps you learn to spell. To become a good speller, you must learn all of our spelling forms. Many of our words do not follow regular spelling rules, so it's important to pay close attention to the different ways words are spelled. Writing the words will also help you to remember them more easily.

## **The Railway Station**

In our town the railway station is located near the main highway. Where the railroad tracks cross the road, there are red lights to warn traffic when a train is coming. These trains come from across the nation. Some of them are long freight trains carrying all sorts of goods, such as cars, coal, lumber, fruits and vegetables, and cattle.

You must be patient if you are in a car stuck at the crossing waiting for a long freight train to go by. Some people like to count the freight cars as they pass. Time seems to go faster that way.

The station was built many years ago. But today people in town think of the station as a town treasure, as part of its history. There are even picture postcards of the station sold at the newsstand. I don't think they will ever tear down the station because it is a very special place in this town.



## **The Gymnast**

Lynn's brother Ralph wants to become a gymnast. He will have to do a lot of practice at the gym if he wants to succeed. At first he wanted to become a wrestler. But then he decided that wrestling was not for him.

Ralph practices all the time. He also works with other kids at the gym. He enjoys teaching and wants to be a teacher of gymnastics some day.

Ralph is also a good scholar at school. He would like to get a scholarship so that he can go on to college and become a school teacher. His parents told him to write a letter to the college he wanted to attend. So he wrote the letter but did not get an answer right away. His mother told him to be patient. She was sure he would hear from the college soon. He did hear from the college and the letter they sent assured him that he would get a special scholarship because he was such a good student.

## **Our Home School**

A few years ago our family moved to a small town in Kentucky. The school was so far from our home that our mother and father decided to teach us at home. My sister, Phyllis, was in the third grade and I was in the fifth grade when we moved. We did not want to leave our old school because we had many friends there.

We are now very happy we moved and that our parents decided to home-school us. We are learning new things all the time and we can plan our own days.

Mom does most of the teaching but Dad helps out at night. We read a lot of good books. I like to read about nature and explorers. Phyllis likes to read about history. Mom makes us do a lot of writing. She says that being a good writer will help us get good jobs when we are ready to go to work.

As for friends, we made a lot of new friends among other home-schoolers in our neighborhood.

## **A New School Year**

Jane and Kevin went to live with their grandma and grandpa at the beginning of the new school year. Jane was starting first grade, and Kevin was starting second grade. Their grandma and grandpa wanted to know how they would be taught to read at the new school.

They had learned phonics when they were children and were very good readers. They loved to read stories from long ago to their grandchildren. Their grandma's favorite story was *Little Women* and their grandpa's favorite story was *Swiss Family Robinson*.

When their grandma and grandpa visited the school, they were very happy to learn that their grandchildren would be taught to read with phonics just as they had been taught many years before.

## **Knowledge**

The more you know the better you will be able to make your way through life. You can gain much of your knowledge from books. You can also gain it by talking with successful people who know how to obtain knowledge that will help you succeed in life.

Studying hard and doing lots of reading will help you expand your vocabulary and become a good speller. The more words you know the more knowledge you will have, for each word adds knowledge to your mind.

If you want to have a good future, you must also know how to handle money, how to save part of what you earn, and how to make your money grow. All of that also requires knowledge.

Knowledge is power because it helps you to choose the right path in life. It helps you plan the future. Reading books written by the wise men and women of the past will open the door to all of the knowledge the human race has gained from the beginning of time.

## **Choosing Good Books to Read**

Now that you are a reader, you have the entire world of the written word at your fingertips. The library has thousands of books on every subject you can imagine. It is always fun to browse in a library and look at the books you may want to read.

There are books about history, which tell us about the past, how people lived before there were airplanes, TV, and computers. There are books about the lives of famous people. They are called biographies.

We can learn much from reading about the lives of great men and women. They can teach us about what it takes to succeed in life and they can also teach us about the mistakes people make so that we need not make the same mistakes.

So you can see that the library is a storehouse of great knowledge and stories. There are books on sports, travel, cooking, inventions, space, and many other subjects. You will find that using the library will be a great benefit to you for the rest of your life.

## Words into Syllables

Some of the words in this book have more than one syllable and may not be as easy to read. So here is a list of these words and how they can be broken up into syllables so that the reader can sound them out. What is a syllable? A syllable is a unit of speech with one vowel sound, however faint. It may have no consonants or many consonants, but it must have one vowel sound. See if you can pick out the vowel sound in each of the syllables in these words:

airplanes	air-planes	children	chil-dren
alphabet	al-pha-bet	choosing	choos-ing
always	al-ways	consonants	con-so-nants
among	a-mong	decided	de-cid-ed
answer	an-swer	different	dif-fer-ent
anything	an-y-thing	doing	do-ing
assured	as-sured	eagle	ea-gle
attention	at-ten-tion	early	ear-ly
becoming	be-com-ing	easier	eas-i-er
beginning	be-gin-ning	easily	eas-i-ly
benefit	ben-e-fit	enjoy	en-joy
biographies	bi-og-ra-phies	entire	en-tire
broken	bro-ken	even	e-ven
carried	car-ried	ever	ev-er
carrying	car-ry-ing	expert	ex-pert
cattle	cat-tle	explorers	ex-plor-ers

family	fam-i-ly	practice	prac-tice
famous	fa-mous	railway	rail-way
father	fa-ther	regular	reg-u-lar
favorite	fa-vor-ite	remember	re-mem-ber
finger	fin-ger	requires	re-quires
follow	fol-low	Robinson	Rob-in-son
future	fu-ture	scholarship	schol-ar-ship
grandchildren	grand-chil-dren	special	spe-cial
gymnast	gym-nast	spelling	spell-ing
gymnastics	gym-nas-tics	started	start-ed
highway	high-way	station	sta-tion
history	his-to-ry	storehouse	store-house
imagine	i-mag-ine	stories	sto-ries
important	im-por-tant	struggle	strug-gle
inspire	in-spire	studying	stud-y-ing
inventions	in-ven-tions	subject	sub-ject
Kentucky	Ken-tuck-y	succeed	suc-ceed
knowledge	knowl-edge	successful	suc-cess-ful
library	li-brar-y	syllable	syl-la-ble
located	lo-cat-ed	television	tel-e-vi-sion
longer	lon-ger	thousands	thou-sands
loving	lov-ing	today	to-day
mistakes	mis-takes	treasure	treas-ure
nation	na-tion	unit	u-nit
neighborhood	neigh-bor-hood	vegetables	veg-e-ta-bles
newsstand	news-stand	visited	vis-it-ed
nurses	nurs-es	vowel	vow-el
overhead	o-ver-head	wiggled	wig-gled
patient	pa-tient	wrestler	wres-tler
people	peo-ple	wriggling	wrig-gling
phonics	phon-ics	writer	writ-er
Phyllis	Phyl-lis	writing	writ-ing
picture	pic-ture	written	writ-ten

## Con-grat-u-la-tions

Congratulations! You have reached the end of the Alpha-Phonics reading program. By now you should be able to decode and sound out any word in English you come across. But this is also a beginning. Now you will be learning how to use our wonderful (won-der-ful) and beautiful (beau-ti-ful) English language. How you use this language will not only tell people how smart you are, but it will also tell them how well educated (ed-u-cat-ed) you are.

Do as much reading as you can. Reading will increase your knowledge and expand your vocabulary (vo-cab-u-lar-y). It will also entertain (en-ter-tain) you. You will have access to all of the knowledge and wisdom of the past. This is your heritage (her-i-tage). It will expand your mind and give you a deeper sense of life.

We wish you great success in all that you do and that your fondest dreams will come true.



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**First Readers**

Book 1	— Lessons	1 - 14
Book 2	— Lessons	15 - 28
Book 3	— Lessons	29 - 37
Book 4	— Lessons	38 - 39
Book 5	— Lessons	40 - 49
Book 6	— Lessons	50 - 71
Book 7	— Lessons	72 - 86
Book 8	— Lessons	87 - 100
Book 9	— Lessons	101 - 117
Book 10	— Lessons	118 - 128
Book 11	— Poetry	







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