



Bright from the start

Resources to use this summer to
help ensure your child is ready
for 2nd grade



Sight Words

Sight words are words that good readers **instantly recognize** without having to figure them out. A good reader really can't afford the time to dwell on too many words, or he may lose the speed and fluency necessary for determining the author's message.

Your child was introduced to 184 sight words in our first grade reading program. Print the following pages and cut apart the word cards. Help your child review these words by flashing each card and encouraging your child to quickly read the word.

If your child struggles in this area, you should not overwhelm your child with all 184 words. Pull three or four words to concentrate on and gradually add more cards until all words are mastered.

If your child can read all 184 words, continue to review the words to build automaticity.

help

let's

now

in

no

too

get

hold

home

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soon

late

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said

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line

Mr.

new

says

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loud

Mrs.

put

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about

books

family

name

people

read

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writing

always

by

Cow's

join

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room

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carry

money

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walked

brown

city

hello

loudly

love

pulled

become

busy

eyes

high

listen

remembered

talk

visitor

clear

color

good-bye

hair

kinds

only

toes

climbed

earth

fooling

table

thought

answered

baby

done

heard

pools

pushed

together

able

almost

blue

great

poured

took

traveled

boy

building

tomorrow

toward

any

welcoming

front

nothing

ready

sorry



Decodable Text

Decodable text is composed primarily of pre-taught sight words and words containing letter sounds that the reader knows. It is important that students have the opportunity to read lots of decodable text so that they will practice applying their letter sound knowledge in connected text.

At the beginning of second grade, your child should be reading 50 to 110 words per minute. By the **end of second grade**, your child should be reading 90 to 142 words per minute when reading passages. Repeated oral reading substantially improves word recognition, speed, and accuracy as well as fluency. Four re-readings are sufficient for most students.

Print the following passages. Have your child read a different passage each day. Your child should read each passage four times. You should monitor your child's reading and ensure that he is 'reading' punctuation marks, too. Each rereading should be a bit smoother and a bit quicker.

“Look at all this junk!” Bess Duck called to Bud Duck. “We can’t 13
get stuck with this junk,” said Bud. “This stuff must go to the 26
dump!” Bess picked up six cups filled with mud, ten mugs filled 38
with dust, and a big jug. Bud picked up a rug with rips, a tub 53
with rust, plus, a bed with lumps. Bump! Bump! Thump! Bess 64
and Bud had to tug and lug all the junk. Bess huffed and Bud 78
puffed. It was not fun, but they did it! Bess and Bud got rid of 93
the junk, but they did not go to the dump! 103

Ping, ping. Bing, bing. “What is that?” Ling thinks. “A thing is 12
there! It hid in the mist!” Thump, thud! Thump, thud! “It’s 23
flinging twigs and rocks! It’s big and tall. I bet it has fangs!” 36
Bang, bang! Clang, clang! “It’s on a swing! Get off my swing, 48
you big, bad thing!” “Where did that thing go? Is it clinging to 61
the wall? Can it get in?” Bang! Thump! Crack! “This is lasting 73
too long!” Ling sobs. Some fog clings to the grass. “Is that thing 86
still there?” Ling thinks. At last the sun melts the fog. There is 99
no thing! 101

Doris is my cat. Doris was thin, but then she got plump. Now	13
Doris is fat! I formed a fort with twigs and sand. Doris trots	26
off to that fort a lot. Doris will go back and forth, back and	40
forth. Doris will bring torn socks or a worn cap or some rags.	53
Doris brings more and more things! What is Doris doing with all	65
that stuff? I did not see Doris this morning. I am hunting for her	79
at the fort, but I can't find her. Is that a snore? Is that Doris?	94
Look! Doris is a mom!	99

Nat finished his Fish Shack at the shore. "I wish I could get a big	15
ship," said Nat. Nat fished for fresh catfish. "Fresh fish makes	26
the best dish," Nat said. Nat cast his nets for crabs. Nat dug	39
for clams at the shore. "I can dig fast in the sand," Nat said.	53
Nat grilled catfish, crabs, and clams. Nat's fresh fish is a hit!	65
All rush to grab a dish at Nat's Fish Shack. Nat spent all his	79
cash on his ship, <i>The Big Fish</i> .	86

Mitch and Blanch live on a ranch. There is so much to do on a ranch. Mitch's chore is to get the ox. Mitch lifts a latch on the pen. The ox comes to Mitch. Blanch checks on the chickens. A chick is hatching in a nest. Blanch's chore is to fetch eggs for Mom. Mom will chill the eggs. Dad chops and chops a big branch. The children stack logs in a bunch. Blanch checks the pigs. They munch and munch. Blanch likes to catch piglets. The ranch pals chat at lunch. Mitch and Blanch think ranch chores are fun!

This is Carmel. It is just a dot on the map. There is much to see in charming Carmel. Bring a scarf and jacket. Carmel does not get too hot. Then visit the shore. Look at starfish cling to sharp rocks. See small dark fish dart back and forth. Not far off, a sand art contest has started. Lots of artists spend the day in Carmel. Dogs have a grand time here. They run and bark all along the shore. Look at this card. I like Carmel a lot!

Quint and his dad looked at the squids. “I can see six small squids, Dad,” 15
said Quint. “I can see one big squid,” said Quint’s dad. “That must be 29
lunch. The squids are getting fish,” said Quint’s dad. “That squid has ten 42
long arms!” gasped Quint. “Yes, squids can grab fish with them,” said 54
Quint’s dad. “Look at the squids swim. Squids are quick!” said Quint. 66
“That squid is red. That squid is not,” said Quint. “Yes,” said Quint’s dad. 80
“Squids can do that.” “Is that liquid from the squid?” asked Quint. “It is 94
dark.” “It is the squid’s ink,” said Quint’s dad. “Now we cannot see the 108
squids at all.” 111

Use the hints and think. Which animal is it? It is small. It can 14
hop. When it is in water, it can swim. Which animal is it? It is 29
a frog. It lives in a pond. 36
It is big. It can grunt. When it is hot, it sits in the mud. Which 52
animal is it? It is a pig. It lives in a pen on a farm. 67
It runs fast. It can whiz past in a flash. When it is happy, it 82
jumps and licks. Which animal is it? It is a whippet. A whippet 95
is a dog. Where do you think this whippet lives? 105

Will and Pam sat. “What can we do?” asked Will. Pam got a big ball. “Let’s kick this ball,” said Pam. “Yes, that is fun!” said Will. Will and Pam kicked the ball back and forth. “Let’s kick it in that net,” said Pam. “I will stop it when you kick it,” said Will. Whack! Wham! Pam kicked the ball hard. It zipped past Will and hit the net. Whack! Wham! Pam kept kicking that ball in the net. “Pam!” yelled Will. “You are a whiz at soccer!” “Thanks,” said Pam. “Now you kick.” Whack! Will kicked the ball. It landed in a basket on the porch. “You are a whiz at basketball!” yelled Pam.

Burt had a big grin. He was going to have a turn visiting his Gramps. Burt started to pack his bag. First he packed his trucks and his cars and his fur hat. Then his soccer ball and his stuffed dog went in. “Mom, I am all packed. I can go now,” Burt yelled. “Burt, this bag will burst!” said his mom. “If you lift it, you will get hurt. What did you pack?” “I packed all my stuff. Gramps and I can have fun with it,” said Burt. “Let’s pick one thing. This bag is for shirts and pants. It is not for all this stuff,” said Mom. “This is better,” said Burt. “Now I can go!”

King Curtis is the king of a big land. King Curtis has big curls and a big hat. Shirl has big curls, but her hat is not as big as her dad's. King Curtis has a big yard. One day, the king tripped and fell and hurt his leg. King Curtis had to rest in his big bed. The king felt sad. "A king has a big job! I must get up!" "You must rest, Dad," said Shirl, "or your leg will not get better. I can help with your job." King Curtis turned to Shirl. "You can?" King Curtis asked. "Then you must have a big hat." King Curtis is still king of his big land, but now he gets help.

"Chirp, chirp. Chirp, Chirp." "Is that a bird?" asked Fern. "Yes," Bert whispered to his sister. "It's under this plant. It fell in the dirt." "Look at its leg," Fern said. "It can't get up to fly. It can't sit on its perch. Let's help it." Fern held out her skirt. Bert slid the bird onto it. "Look, Mom," said Bert. "It's a bird. It hurt its leg." "Perhaps the animal shelter can help," Mom said. "First, I'll tuck it in this shirt." They all got in the car and crossed the river to get to the shelter. "This is a perfect spot for the bird," a man said. "We will let the bird go when it gets better!"

Little Ann is visiting Uncle Frank's farm. She wants to pet all the animals.	13
First, Little Ann must have her morning nap. She will cuddle and snuggle her purple turtle.	24
How can Little Ann nap?	35
Ed dribbles his ball back and forth. Bam! Bang! Bam!	46
How can Little Ann nap? The river babbles, gurgles, and bubbles.	56
The big pig snorts, slurps, and gobbles. How can Little Ann nap?	68
Uncle Frank starts to fiddle. The twins giggle and play with marbles.	79
How can Little Ann nap? The fan starts to rumble and rattle.	90
The twins start to run and stumble. Little Ann has a good chuckle.	103
Mom gives her a hug and a snuggle. But Little Ann never has her nap!	115
	120

A horn blows long and low. All the workers go up on the little yellow tugboat's deck.	15
On this day, the little yellow tugboat has a big job. It must tow a red boat to the shop.	29
The red boat must get fixed. The little yellow tugboat chugs up the river.	45
The red boat is still floating. It did not sink.	60
The little yellow tugboat slows and stops. It will tow the red boat back to the dock.	75
The little yellow tugboat must tug hard on the red boat. It is a big load to tow, but the little yellow tugboat can do it!	91
The little yellow tugboat ends its trip. It stops at the dock.	107
The little yellow tugboat did it. The red boat can get fixed.	122
Good job, little yellow tugboat!	133

The Reeds had three chickens—Doreen, Edith, and Ann. Then 10
they got a new chicken. She was small and meek. “We’ll call her 23
Liz,” Dad said. Doreen made such a fuss when she saw Liz! She 36
puffed out her cheeks and pecked at Liz’s feet. She hid all the 49
feed and did not let Liz eat. Doreen was mean. This went on for 63
weeks. Then Dad said, “We can’t keep Doreen. She’ll hurt Liz. 74
Let’s give her to Farmer Lee.” Farmer Lee set Doreen free in 86
the pen. “Meet Doreen,” he said to his chickens. “You all be 98
good to her.” Well, now Doreen was not so mean. In fact, she 111
seemed sweet. 113

Ethan and Tess play with me on Granddad’s farm. Granddad’s cat, 11
Chester, plays with us, too. Tess has hidden and we have to hunt for her. 26
Where can she be? Is she on the porch swing? Is she in the turnip 41
garden? No! She is with Chester in the big, red barn. Ethan has hidden. 55
Where can he be? Is he in the long hallway? Is he under the twin bed? 71
No! He is with Chester below the tall corn. I have hidden. Ethan and Tess 86
will not find me. Where can I be? Am I on the hilltop? Am I in the big, 104
yellow pumpkin patch? No, but Chester can see me. He is curled up on 118
Granddad’s little, green cot. That’s just where I am! 127

This is my friend, Will. He can play soccer. He can kick the ball across the 16
backyard. This is my friend, Liz. She can play soccer, too. She can kick 30
the ball in the net. I am Chad. I can play soccer just like Will and Liz. 47
I can pass the ball and run fast. I can pitch a ball, too. Will can hit it with 66
his bat. If Will misses, Liz can catch it with her mitt. We all can do it! 83
We can even play basketball. Liz can dribble. She can pass, too. Will 96
can jump. He can dunk the ball in the basket. I can keep score. We all 112
can do it! We can do lots of things, and we can play lots of ball. We 129
can be a good team. We will always be friends. We will always have fun. 144

There are lots of ways to go here and there. Some hop in cars. Some float 16
in boats. Some zip and whiz in jets. I like trains best. I like long trains and 33
short trains. Trains speed past farms and hills. Trains are fast and fun. 46
Trains go on railroad tracks. Their wheels spin fast. Railroad tracks are laid 59
from coast to coast. Mom, Dad, and I can see lots of towns on trains. This 75
train has many cars. I can visit each car. In this car, I can get a snack and 93
pay for it. Trains have big, soft seats. I can sit and chat with Mom and 109
Dad. I can nap on the seats, too. I met Gail and Fay on this train. I had 127
fun with them. We played all day. I say that trains are the best way to 143
go. Which way is best for you? 150

Is your home by the sea or far away? If it is far away, you can still help	18
save the whales. What can you do? You may have lakes or rivers by	32
you. People might toss trash in them. Waves can take that trash to the	46
sea. That same trash can make whales sick. If a whale ate it, it might get	62
ill. Trash can make fish and turtles sick, too. Trash is not safe in the water	78
or on land. Take your trash with you. Put it in a trash bag, not a lake.	95
Keep the whales, fish, and turtles safe. It is not too late to save the	110
whales. We must keep them safe.	116

This is Mike the Grime Stopper. He rides a gleaming white bike. Mike's	13
bike is so clean it shines. Mike hunts for dirt and grime. Let's see what	28
Mike's life is like. Mike drives for miles each day. When Mike sees grime,	42
he stops. All the traffic stops, too! Mike gives the dirt a squirt. Then he	57
wipes it off and smiles with pride. Grime can't hide from Mike. He hunts	71
for it all the time. No mess is safe when Mike is around. Mike doesn't	86
whine or gripe. He just dives in and cleans things up. At last, it all looks	102
fine! Mike is on his way now. Off he drives to hunt for more grime!	117

Cole Frog and Jerome Toad became pals back when they were little 12
tadpoles. All tadpoles hatch from eggs. Those eggs are so small, they 24
seem like dots. Little tadpoles hatch out of the floating eggs. Cole and 37
Jerome were hatched in the same cove. One day, as the tadpoles dove 50
away from a minnow seeking a meal, Cole and Jerome came nose to nose. 64
They became pals then. Note how much Cole and Jerome have grown! 76
Cole has legs and so does Jerome. Gills became lungs. They no longer 89
have tails. Cole and Jerome eat the same meals of insects and slugs. 102
Plop! Plunk! Cole and Jerome jump in the cove to soak and croak out 116
songs that are sweet and low—at least to them! 126

Bridget is six. She likes to run and play. Today, Bridget cannot run and 14
play. Today, Bridget is in a wedding. There is little time for fun. Madge 28
fixes Bridget's lace dress. "Stand still, Bridget. Please don't fidget," says 39
Mom. Bridget stands for a long time. Ginger tames Bridget's curls. "Sit 51
still, Bridget. Please don't fidget," says Mom. Bridget sits for a long time. 64
At the church, the wedding song starts. Bridget wants to race. Yet, she 77
walks at a slow pace. She walks for a long time. Next, they all drive to a 94
big hall. A band plays on the stage. Mom gives Bridget a gentle nudge. 108
"Let's dance, princess." Bridget walks out to dance. Bridget does not 119
fidget. She dances for a long time. 126

Winter is here. The forest sparkles with snow. Dodge River has turned 12
to ice. It is time for the big ice race. Forest animals line the edge of 28
Dodge River. They twist and fidget. When will the race start? Who 40
will win? Last winter, Grace Rabbit was the champ. She can't wait for the 54
race to begin. Here she is in her lace cape. At last, the animals are set 70
to race. Madge Turtle is the judge. She waves the flag and yells, "Go!" 84
Ginger Otter had a slow start. Roger Fox is in the lead. Roger Fox is at 100
the finish line first! Roger is the champ! "Hurray for Roger!" everyone 112
calls. "Thanks!" says Roger Fox. "Let's all go to my place and eat the 126
prize—this large fudge cake!" 131

Trace does not live in a big town. His home is in a small place called 16
Cinder Hills. Cinder Hills is a simple town with a slow pace. People never 30
rush. Trace always has a smile on his face. Each morning, Trace eats in 44
peace. Then he runs in the center circle of the park. Trace likes to ride 59
bikes with his pal Spencer. They race up the hill to the school. Then Trace 74
and Spencer ride down the cement road until they reach the big oak tree. 88
Time for a snack! They sit in the shade and eat rice cakes and apple 103
slices. That night, Trace thinks about the nice day he had in the best 117
place around—Cinder Hills! 121

Duke the Mule liked to sing. He sang tunes all day long. Duke sang a 15
tune when the other mules wanted to sleep. They did not like that. “The 29
rule is no singing when it is dark,” said a rude mule. “We think you must 45
go!” Duke left. He walked across hot sand dunes. He walked for miles 58
and miles. Duke walked all the days in May and he walked all the days in 74
June. He sang tunes each day. In time, Duke met a cute chimp named 88
Rube. Rube played a flute. Rube liked to play, and Duke liked to sing. 102
They played and sang with each other. Now Duke and Rube play tunes 115
in a circus. Duke and Rube love playing in a circus. The rule is they 130
CAN play tunes when it is dark! 137

Tyrone has made up a game. He calls it “Fright or Delight.” He asks his 15
friend Dwight to play. He will show Dwight a sight. Dwight will pick “delight” 29
if he likes it. He will pick “fright” if he does not like it. First, Tyrone shows 46
Dwight a black light. Dwight picks “fright.” Tyrone’s next card has a man 59
on a tightrope at the circus. It makes Dwight smile. He picks “delight.” 72
“Oh, no!” Dwight sighs as he looks at the next card. He thinks he might 87
cry. The sight is a dark shadow. He picks “fright.” Tyrone holds up the 101
last card. Dwight sees a nice warm bed on a cold night. He picks 115
“delight.” The game is finished. “Why don’t we switch places?” Dwight 126
asks. “Yes,” says Tyrone, “let me give it a try!” 136

Say you want to help make dinner one time in July. What will you make? 15
Why not fry some chicken? First, clean the chicken and pat it dry. Then, 29
apply some spices to make it taste good. After that, ask Mom or Dad for 44
help to place it in the hot pan. Do not let it burn. What more will you 61
make? Why not try a pie? First, make a pie crust. You may need help 76
to make it. Why not try an apple filling? Get help to peel and slice the 92
apples. Add butter and spices. Bake the pie. Then, do not be shy. Say 106
with pride, "Try this! This is not a lie! I made fried chicken and apple pie." 122

Dad's birthday is on Sunday. Jane tries to think of a gift that he will like. 16
Jane sees that she has time to talk with Mom. Mom asks Jane what she 31
wants to get Dad. "How about a pan for making french fries?" asks 44
Jane. "Oh, no!" cries Mom. "Dad does not like fried food." "Will he eat 58
a big cream pie?" asks Jane. "It is not fried." "He shies away from sweets, 73
too," replies Mom. "Dad tries to eat well all the time." "I know!" cries Jane. 88
"How about a tie? Let me pick one to match his green shirt." "You must 103
hide it from Dad this week," replies Mom. "Then on Sunday it will be a 118
big surprise!" 120

“Elmer! Elmer!” shouted May. “Our brown cow got out. I am in my 13
nightgown now. You must look around for her!” Elmer jumped off the 25
couch and ran out of his house. The brown cow must be found! Elmer 39
looked at the trees around his house. However, he did not spot the brown 53
cow. “Did the brown cow roam downtown?” he asked out loud. A crowd 66
was standing around. “Have you found a brown cow?” Elmer asked. A 78
stout man said with a smile, “Cow? Don’t you mean owl?” Wow! Elmer 91
found his brown cow. The cow thinks she is an owl! 102

Come to the City Dog Show with me. There are lots of fancy dogs to see! 16
The show is in a big field. I think there are sixty dogs or more. Not one 31
dog is dirty or clumsy or grumpy. They all seem frisky and happy. That 44
small dog is a Yorkie. Yorkie dogs are really brave. A Yorkie is a buddy 58
for life. That big dog is a Husky. A Husky is fluffy and furry! Every Husky 73
likes places where it is snowy. That silvery one is a Scotty dog. It has silky 88
fur and a sturdy body. A Scotty dog is very perky. Just a single dog will 103
win the big prize. The judges are mighty picky. I think it will be a tricky 118
job, don’t you? 120

On a moonlit night glittering with dew, a poodle named Scooter said, “I am 14
bored with howling at the moon. I am going to open a new grooming shop.” 29
The pooch turned his playroom into a shop called Zoom Groom. His shop 42
had pools and seats for grooming. It had places for dogs to sit and wait. 57
He stocked his storeroom with crates of shampoo, brushes, and a broom. 69
Scooter could now open his shop. Soon Scooter’s Zoom Groom was 80
packed with dirty pooches. He got set to brush and clean every one of 94
them. “Step right this way,” Scooter boomed. He tossed lots of shampoo 106
into the pool. The pooches jumped into the bubbles with whoops and yells. 119
How soon could Scooter get them all clean? Scooter groomed every 130
pooch before noon. As they zoomed out, he said, “This is why I call my 145
shop Zoom Groom!” 148

My name is Cody. This is Jo. This is our pup, Tony. He is ten weeks old. 17
Tony can do neat tricks. If I hold a treat, he tries to get it. If Jo says, 35
“Roll over, boy!” he does. Tony is fun, but sometimes he plays a game we 50
don’t like. The moment someone opens the gate, he escapes. “Come, 61
Tony!” we scold. He runs in circles. He lets us get so close, then ZIP! He 77
runs away again! Tony can play this game forever. So we hold our faces 91
and pretend to sob. Tony thinks, “Oh, no! Don’t be sad, Jo and Cody!” 105
Just like that, the game is over. Tony lets us hold him, and we all go inside. 122

One day, Dad and I came across an old chest in the attic. Inside were 15
items that belonged to Dad when he was a child. “Look at this tiny ball!” 30
said Dad. “I liked to bounce it up and down all over the place.” “Wow! 43
this is my spider story! I did it when I was nine.” “This is a blindfold,” Dad 60
explained. “I’d put it on to play games at parties.” “This is a stuffed tiger 75
that I was lucky to find. It reminds me of a wild tiger. I had so much fun 93
playing with it!” “Do you wish you were a child again, Dad?” I asked. He 108
was silent for a moment. Then he said, “Sometimes I do. That was a neat 123
time. When I tell you about it, I can be there again.” 135

Di gets up first thing in the morning. She puts her shirt and jeans on. She 16
has lots of work to do in her garden. Di waits for the sun to rise. It seems 34
like the day will be sunny and mild. She puts her big hat on to block the 51
sun’s rays. Di needs to weed. She finds long wild vines around her plants. 65
She tugs away. Di finds a tiny spider in its web. “Hi, little one,” Di whispers. 81
“I like you. You can stay!” “Time to pick peppers,” Di says. Some are mild 96
and some are spicy. Di likes both kinds. Mother likes to chop the peppers 110
into her stew. Di will help her stir the pot. Mother will remind Di to be 126
safe. Di finds a spot to sit down. She rests. She likes to work in her 142
garden, but she likes to relax, too! 149