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Created *by* Teachers *for* Teachers and Students

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Take-Home Backpack— Grades K–1

This sample includes the following:

Kids Learn Activity Book

- Table of Contents (1 page)
- Introduction pages (3 pages)
- Student pages (3 pages)

Nonfiction Book Sample

Family Engagement Guide Sample

To Create a World ⁱⁿ which
Children Love to Learn!

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Table of Contents

Introduction

Welcome Letter	4
Helpful Family Resources	5

Weekly Activities

Week 1 Activities	13
Week 2 Activities	23
Week 3 Activities	33
Week 4 Activities	43
Week 5 Activities	53
Week 6 Activities	63
Week 7 Activities	73
Week 8 Activities	83
Week 9 Activities	93

Appendices

Appendix A: Activity Cards	103
Appendix B: Extra Activities	119
Appendix C: Answer Key	132
Appendix D: My Journal	136



Welcome Letter

Dear Family,

Kids Learn! Getting Ready for 1st Grade was designed to help your child solidify the concepts learned in kindergarten and prepare for the exciting year ahead. The engaging activities are based on today's standards and provide practice with essential reading, writing, and math skills. Since your child is developing their skills, it is important that you work through the activities together. This book will help your child GET READY for first grade! Keep these tips in mind as you work with your child:

- ◆ Have your child complete one or two pages each time they work, rather than an entire week's worth of activities at one time.
- ◆ Keep all practice sessions with your child positive and constructive. If your child gets frustrated, set the book aside and find another time to practice.
- ◆ Help your child with the directions. If your child is having difficulty understanding what to do, work through some of the problems together.
- ◆ Encourage your child to creatively share their thoughts and feelings on the My Journal pages.

Enjoy spending time with your child. First grade will be here before you know it!



Things to Do as a Family

General Skills

- ◆ Make sure your child gets plenty of exercise. Children need about 60 minutes of physical activity each day. Take advantage of good weather to get outside and ride bicycles, take walks, or play an outdoor game.
- ◆ It's also important for children to get plenty of sleep. Children this age need between 9 and 11 hours of sleep each night. Establish a nightly bedtime routine that involves relaxing activities such as a warm bath or shower or reading a story.

Reading Skills

- ◆ Help build your child's comprehension skills by asking questions about what they have read. For example, you could ask why they think a character has done something, or you could ask what they think will happen next.
- ◆ Encourage your child to reread their favorite books, stories, or poems. Rereading will help your child read more quickly and accurately.



Games to Play Together

Find 100

Choose an item that is likely to be seen during a car ride or road trip. Then, have your child count how many times they see the item. Once your child reaches 100, give them another item to find.

Create a Story

Create a story one sentence at a time. Start by creating an opening sentence of a story. You might say, "Once upon a time, there was a small village of talking chickens." The next player must continue the story by adding the next sentence.

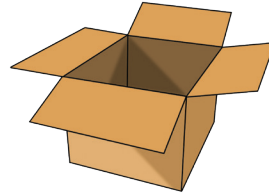
Animal Name Game

Say the name of an animal out loud. Then, the next player has to think of an animal that begins with the last letter of the previous animal's name. For example, one person might say turtle, which ends with an E. The next player could say eagle because it starts with an E. As needed, help your child figure out the ending letters of animal names.

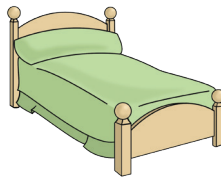
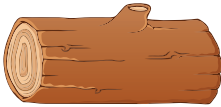
Rhyme Time

Directions: Name the picture in each box.
Circle the picture that rhymes.

1



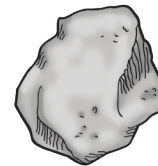
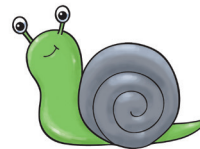
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3



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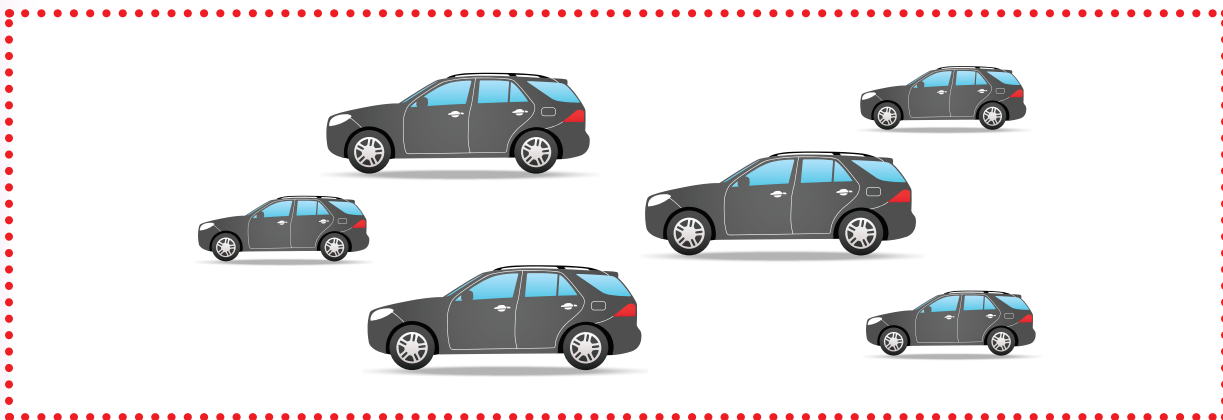


Talk About It!

Which parts of rhyming words sounds the same?

Sort and Count by Size

Directions: Answer the questions.



1 Count the little cars. How many?

2 Count the big cars. How many?

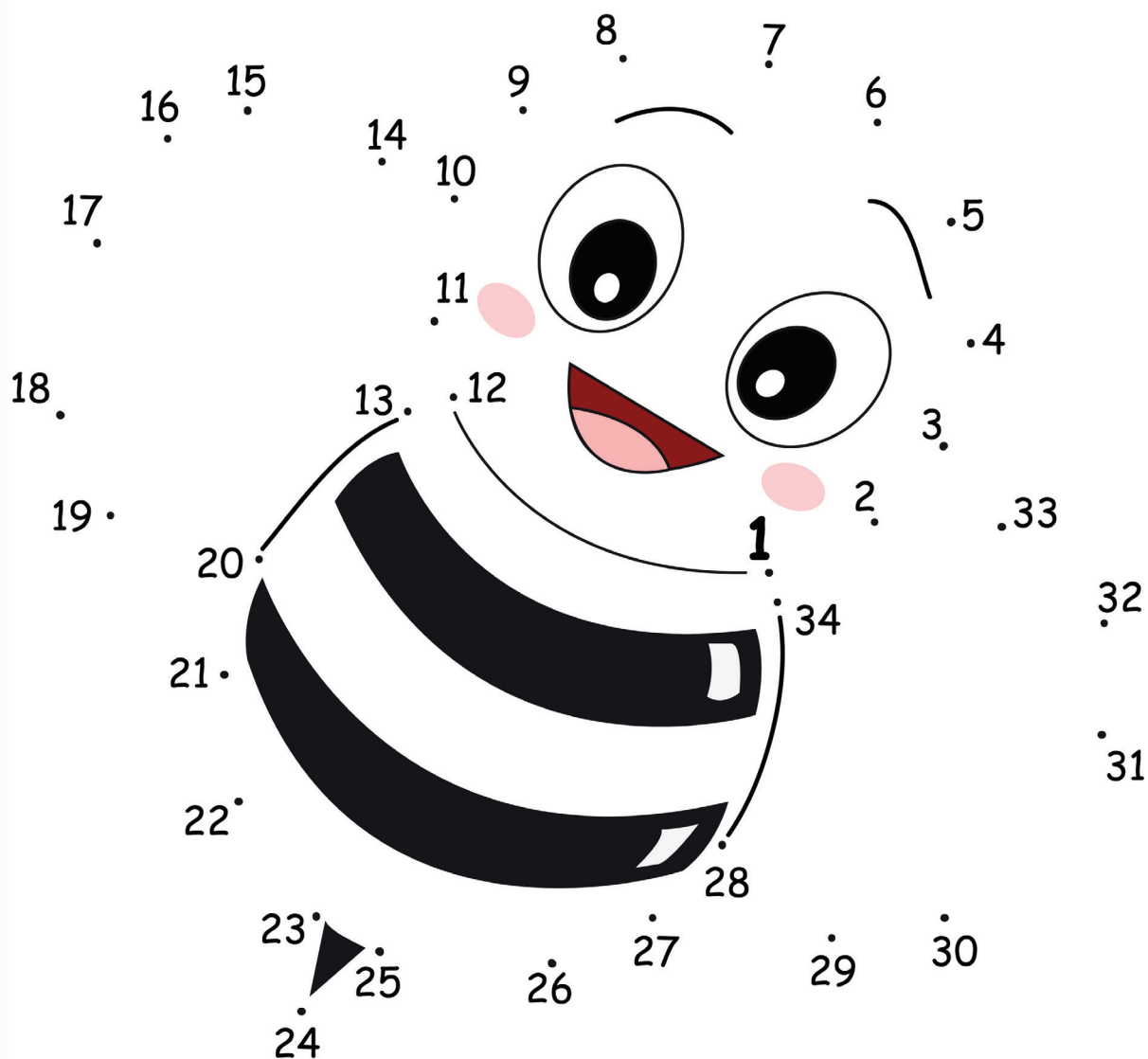


3 Count the big dogs. How many?

4 Count the little dogs. How many?

The Surprise

Directions: Connect the dots in order. Then, color the picture.



Talk About It!

How do you know which number comes next?

I Am a Good Citizen

It is time to learn about being a good citizen.



RL: 0.7



TCM 18344

I Am a Good Citizen

Coan

I Am a Good Citizen



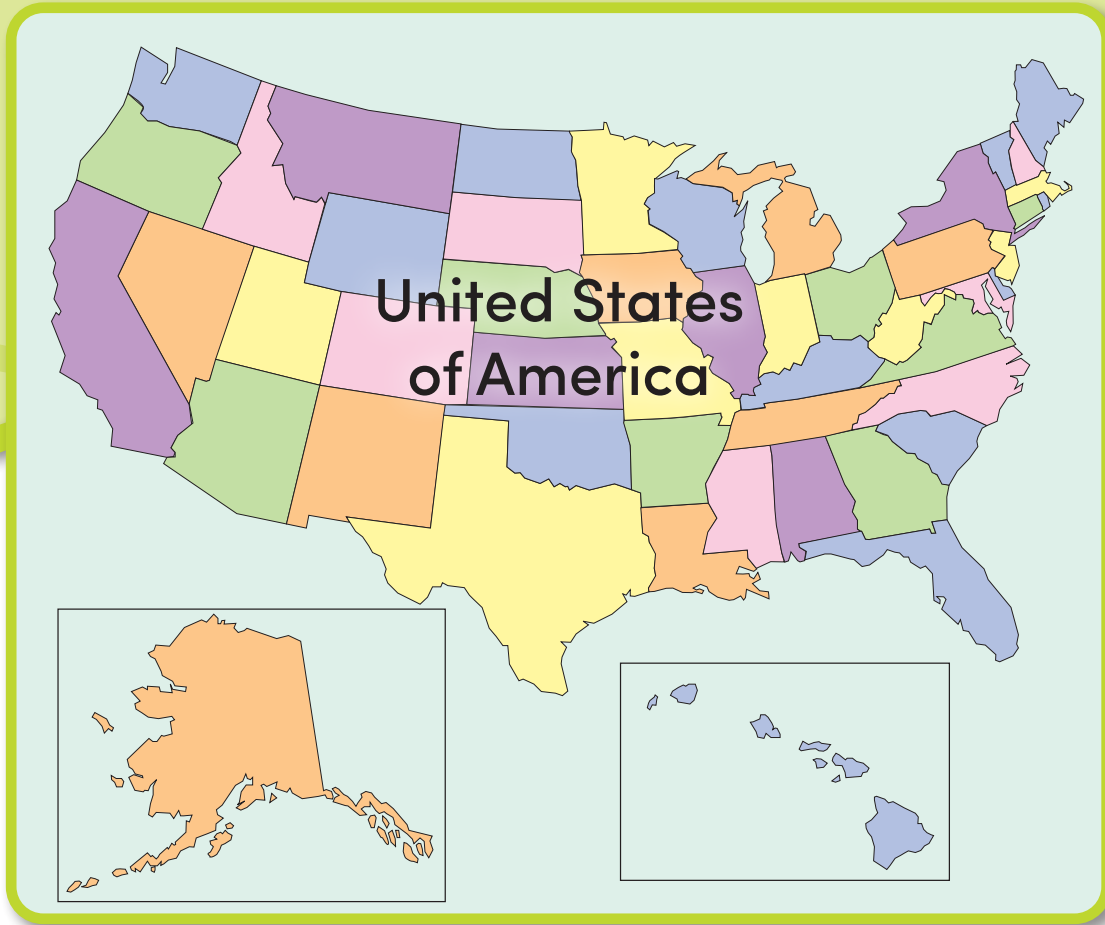
Sharon Coan



I am a good **citizen**.



I do what is right.



I love my country.



I love my town.



I want to help.



I ask what I can do
to help.



I pick up trash.



I keep my town clean.



I care for others.



I am kind.



I follow the **rules**.



I wait in line.



I follow the **laws**.



I wear a **helmet**.



I do what is right.



I am a good citizen.

Try It!



1. Talk about ways to be a good citizen.
2. Choose one thing to do.

3. Do it.
4. Tell about it.

Glossary

citizen—a member of a country

laws—rules for the country

rules—things that tell you what you may or may not do

Index

country, 4

laws, 14

rules, 12

town, 5, 9

Your Turn!



How can you be a good citizen? Draw a picture. Share it with others.



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1st Grade

Family Engagement Guide

Welcome to first grade—an exciting year for your learner! This is the year that many children become readers. They begin to master useful math skills that are fundamental for future learning. This year, they will also experience more formal instruction in topics such as science and social studies. They will expand their social skills and build empathy throughout the year.

You have been your child's primary teacher since the beginning. Now, your child's teacher will play a big role in their everyday learning. This is the perfect time to build a partnership with the teacher to ensure a love of learning. You have already begun to develop many important skills as your child's first and most important teacher!

This guide will give you lots of family-tested ideas. From tips for organizing school materials to strategies for incorporating learning opportunities into your busy day, you are sure to find some ideas that are just right for you and your family.



Top 10 Things Your First Grader Needs to Know

- 1 How to read grade-level books with ease and understanding
- 2 Strategies for reading and spelling high-frequency words
- 3 Ways to write complete sentences with correct capitalization and punctuation
- 4 How to count, read, and write numbers up to 120
- 5 Addition and subtraction facts within 20
- 6 Simple two-digit addition and subtraction problems (without regrouping)
- 7 Ways to use the five senses to observe and describe things
- 8 Living things and their habitats
- 9 Rules and responsibilities of good citizenship
- 10 Holidays and patriotic symbols