

More praise for
FUN PHONICS, Children, Today's Joy!

"Thanks for a wonderful set of books that have given my son a great head start."

T. Weathers, Parent, New York

"Finally! A set of phonetic readers specially designed for beginning readers. I love the way they progress with the child."

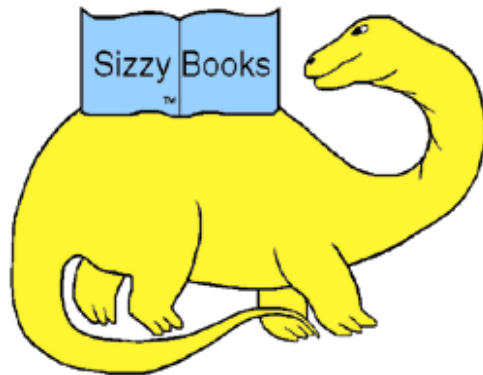
D. Carrier, Parent, New Mexico

"I bought the books as a gift for my niece. She loved the books. Her grandmother said she couldn't wait to finish one so she could read the next book."

S. Adkins, Aunt, Texas

"I think your books are a great way to introduce reading to children. I especially like the questions and fill-in-the-blank for checking comprehension."

S. Honn, Teacher, Iowa



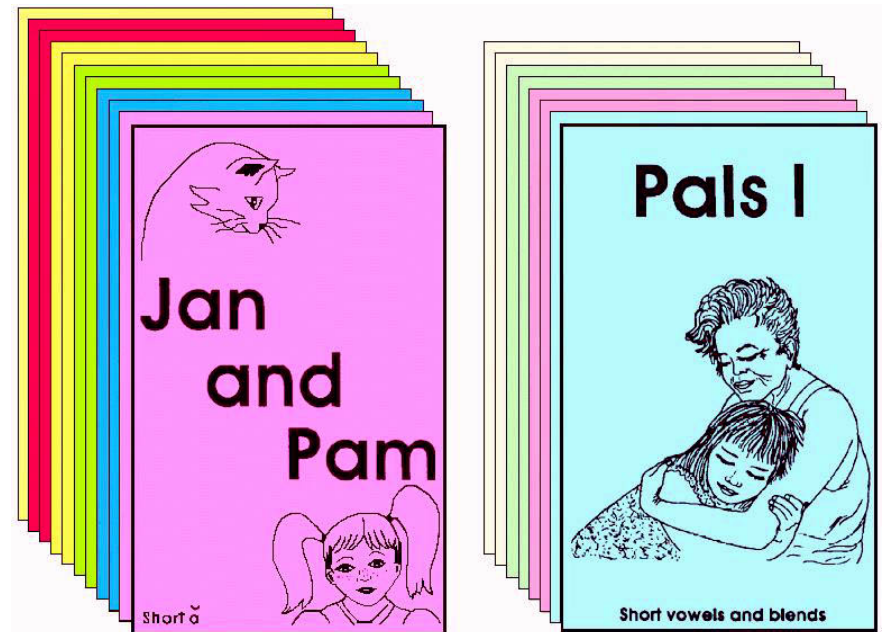
Sizzy Books

FUN PHONICS, Children, Today's Joy! ISBN 0-945590-96-2
A 20 Book Set. 19 Reader/Activity Books plus Reference Guide
476 pp., illust., S/C, 5 1/2" x 8 1/2"

www.FunPhonics.com

Reference Guide

**FUN PHONICS,
Children, Today's Joy!**



Trish Mylet, Writer
Antoinette Sheffield, Illustrator
Developers and Publishers of Fun Phonics!

Delighted children, parents and teachers praise

FUN PHONICS, Children Today's Joy!

"I can read them to my mom!"

S. Thomas, Student, New Mexico

"Your program helps develop not only a love for reading but self-esteem by being successful at reading."

A. Brown, Teacher, California

"Your books are clear, concise and helpful. The children particularly like the question pages and the dot to dot."

D. Pulcher, Teacher, Illinois

"These books make learning to read fun and pressure free!"

L. Parras, Parent, New Mexico

"We have been using these little readers for many years. The phonetic emphasis and controlled vocabulary which they provide are not always easy to find in beginning reading materials."

M. T. Anderson, Principal, Minnesota

"Great phonetic books! The geography and music additions leave the children excited to see what's in the next book. We are pleased!"

C. Sherlock, Director, California

"Finally an 'Easy Reader' that really is 'Easy' for the new reader to be and feel successful."

M. Vallelonga, Teacher, Arizona

"I was working with a 'slow reading' child. She wished to read like the other children her age but just couldn't handle the fast pace of the other reader books we had." We started the child on the FUN PHONICS! books and her confidence level went up so that by the end of the year she was able to move on to the other readers. Thank you."

B. Trombly, Teacher, Colorado

Antoinette Sheffield, Illustrator

Antoinette Sheffield was awarded a scholarship to the Dayton Art Institute and attended the University of Dayton, Ohio State University, Sinclair Community College and the University of New Mexico in Los Alamos. Areas of study included Art, Nursing, Anatomy and Fine Arts.

Sheffield illustrated **FUN PHONICS, Children, Today's Joy!** She developed the states reference pages, and illustrated the text, activity pages, and the Reference Guide. She also created the Sizzy Books logo. Researching the natural history of the plants and animals in her illustrations, and studying about the people and places in the stories was as enjoyable as drawing them. With Trish Mylet, the writer of the FUN PHONICS! set, Sheffield co-developed the integrated curriculum for the books and co-published the books under the Sizzy Books logo.

The illustrator wrote and illustrated a monthly column for the High Cincinnatians newsletter. She received a Photography Award for a photograph LEARNING, A SPRINGTIME ADVENTURE that accompanied her article in The National Montessori Reporter. Her art has been exhibited at the University of New Mexico in Los Alamos.

Sheffield's previous occupations were in the areas of nursing, sales and fashion. She has organized and coordinated various conferences and fund-raising events. Besides art, Sheffield loves hiking with her family and friends, reading, organic gardening, cooking, and traveling. She enjoys life in beautiful New Mexico.

Suggested readings from the illustrator

THE ORDINARY PARENT'S GUIDE TO TEACHING READING

by Jessie Wise

STATE NAMES, SEALS, FLAGS AND SYMBOLS

by Benjamin F. Shearer and Barbara S. Shearer

NORTH AMERICAN BIRDS (THE NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY COLLECTION) by Barbara Burn

WILDLIFE OF NORTH AMERICA by W. J. Yenne

CHILDREN AROUND THE WORLD by Linda Snowdon

GARDEN BIRDS OF NORTH AMERICA by Scott Weidensaul

THE LIFE OF SEA MAMMALS by Kate Woodhouse

AND THEN THERE WERE NONE by Nina Leen

ON THE WING by Bruce Brooks

FIGHT FOR SURVIVAL (Audubon Perspectives) by Roger L. DiSilvestro

WORLDMARK ENCYCLOPEDIA OF THE STATES by Worldmark Press, Ltd.

CHAMP - BEYOND THE LEGEND by Joseph W. Zarzynski

Trish Mylet, Writer

Trish Mylet received a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Arizona where she majored in English. Mylet taught reading skills, drawing from various methods including the California Phonetic Reading Program, the Monterey Reading Program and the Professor Phonics Program, and is certified as an English as a Second Language tutor through Laubach Literacy International.

Mylet wrote the beginning reader and activity set **FUN PHONICS, Children, Today's Joy!** including its Reference Guide, and developed the entire phonic program. With Antoinette Sheffield, the illustrator of the **FUN PHONICS!** set, Mylet co-developed the integrated curriculum of the books and co-published the books under the logo Sizzy Books.

It was through her tutoring experience that Mylet discovered the unique technique of focusing on words with short and long vowel letters in the initial position (ax, Ann, Abe, ate) rather than in the medial word position (cat, hat, cake, late) to help beginning readers more easily recognize and distinguish the vowel sounds. Mylet's success with this innovative method led her to develop and write a new phonic set which implements this technique.

Mylet, a former nun, store detective, governess, and health spa manager taught preschool in the Head Start program, tutored adults through the Laubach Literacy Program and elementary students through the Monterey reading program. The writer also received an Associate Degree from the Culinary Institute of America in New York. Mylet travels extensively and writes in a variety of genres.

Suggested readings from the writer

CHILDHOOD'S FUTURE by Richard Louv
TOWARD A LITERATE SOCIETY edited by John Carroll and J. S. Chall
BEGINNING TO READ by Marilyn Jager. Adams
LEARNING TO READ - THE GREAT DEBATE by Jeanne Chall
TEACHER'S HANDBOOK FOR THE CALIFORNIA PHONETIC READING PROGRAM by Lo Ann Jundt
PROFESSOR PHONICS by Monica Foltzer, M. Ed.
A PARENT'S GUIDE TO CHILDREN'S READING by Nancy Larrick
THEY CAN MAKE MUSIC by Philip Bailey
THE EXPRESSIVE ARTS THERAPIES by Elaine and Bernard Feder
THE OPEN CLASSROOM READER edited by Charles E. Silberman
LITERACY DISORDERS by Anthony V. Manzo and Ula C. Manzo

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Congratulations!

Welcome to **FUN PHONICS, Children, Today's Joy!**'s family of happy learners and readers. By purchasing **FUN PHONICS!** you've taken an important step in helping your student discover the wonderful world of reading! Truly, the ability to read is the most important skill in life and the best gift you will ever give your student.

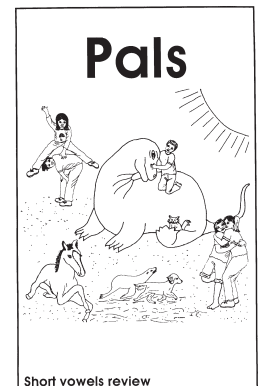
Our goal in developing and publishing **FUN PHONICS!** was to offer an explicit and systematic phonics program through nurturing and loving stories that incorporated the geography of the United States. Little did we anticipate the many interesting and fun facts we would discover about the 50 United States and its inhabitants. Also, little did we anticipate the enthusiastic response these gentle books would receive throughout the world!

FUN PHONICS! solves the puzzle of reading by focusing on the sounds of the letters used in forming simple words. These words are then put together to create easy sentences that tell fun stories! This 19 book reader and activity set teaches, delights, and inspires as it weaves phonics, geography, number recognition, geometric shapes, history and music into the activity pages, stories and illustrations.

FUN PHONICS! has been enthusiastically received all over the world by teachers, by parents, and most importantly, by children!

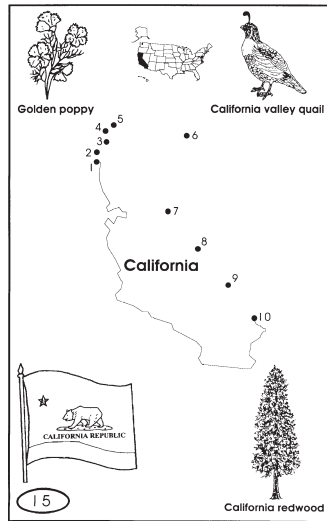
So again, welcome to **FUN PHONICS, Children, Today's Joy!**'s family of happy learners and readers. Enjoy!

Sincerely,
Trish Mylet, Writer
Antoinette Sheffield, Illustrator
Developers and Publishers of Sizzy Books



Positive * Fun * Enriching

PHONIC FAMILIARITY



NUMBER ACTIVITIES

GEOGRAPHIC ACTIVITIES

COMPREHENSION ACTIVITIES

Hun is the pup of _____.

Sum and Hun tug a _____.

_____ has a mug.

13

SELF EXPRESSION ACTIVITIES

CULTURAL DIVERSITY

Children, Chapter 1 and Chapter 2

Victoria = a state in the Commonwealth of Australia.

Kudrum = from Australia. Kudrum is the name of an eagle at "Uluru"/Ayers rock.

Kyoto = from Japan. Kyoto, more centered. Kyoto, capital of the world within. "Tokyo is obsessed with immediacy, it is the capital of the world without, Kyoto is the capital of peace," said Heian Kyo. From *Introducing Kyoto* by Herbert E. Plutschow.

Charles = from England. Charles Dickens, novelist and author of *David Copperfield*, *Oliver Twist*, *A Christmas Carol* and *Great Expectations*.

Heidi = from Europe (Germany). *Heidi* by Johanna Spyri.

Swazila = from the Swaziland and tribe. An ethnic group of southeastern Africa. The Swazi are racially Negroid with some Bushman and Caucasoid admixture. Their language, Siswati, is a click language of the Nguni group within the Bantu subfamily of the Niger-Congo group. They are primarily farmers. (Encyclopedia)

Naguib = from Africa (Cairo, Egypt). Naguib Mahfouz won the 1988 Nobel Prize in Literature. He is a novelist (*Midaq Alley*, *The Struggle of Thebes*, *Children of Gebelawi*, *El Harifish*) and short-story (*A Visit*) writer.

Joaquim = from South America. Joaquim Maria Machado de Assis, self taught mulatto is considered the father of contemporary Brazilian literature.

Inca = a member of any of the dominant groups of South American Indian peoples who established an empire in Peru prior to the "Spanish" conquest.

Keno = from North America. Kenojuak of Cape Dorset, a sculptress and an Inuit.

Elias = a boy's given name, Arabic and Hebrew.

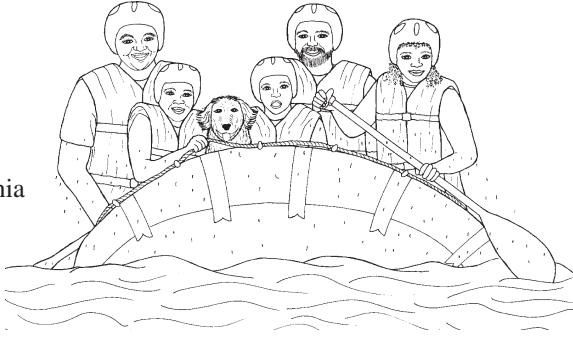
Octavio = from Mexico. Octavio Paz, a Mexican poet, essayist, and literary critic recognized throughout the world and has also served as a diplomat.

Violeta = from Central America, Nicaragua.



Rafting - West Virginia
Aunt Pearl = Pearl S. Buck,
Nobel Prize for literature
for her novels on China.

Betsy and Ross - Pennsylvania
Betsy Ross = the seamstress
who allegedly stitched the
first American flag.



Pals 7

The Lake - Vermont (Lake Champlain)

Abnaki, Algonquin-speaking Indian tribes living in Vermont and along the river valleys of Maine. The Abnaki began their association with the French following the visit of Samuel de Champlain in 1607. (Encyclopedia)

The Champlain Monster, written and illustrated by Jeff Danziger (ISBN 0-933050-17-8) The New England Press.

The Lobsters - Maine

Longfellow = Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, poet.

Lovejoy = Elijah Parish Lovejoy, an abolitionist killed while defending his printing press from a proslavery mob in St. Louis, Missouri.

Pals 8

The Boardwalk - New Jersey (Atlantic City)

Steve Choctaw = a Muskogean people of Mississippi, Alabama and Louisiana. Also means a strange or incomprehensible language. in fancy skating: a stroke forward on either edge of either skate followed by a stroke backward on the opposite edge of the other skate.

In reference to the Boardwalk, *Why Don't You Try* or *The Rolling Chair Song* by Williams and Vanalstyne, a popular song sheet, 1905. (Author's note: I have been unable to find this music.)

The Eagles - Delaware

Dover and Annie = Annie Jump Cannon was a distinguished woman astronomer who was born in Dover.

The White House - Washington, D.C.

White House = The president's home was known as both the "President's House" and the "President's Palace." After a fire in 1812 its walls were painted white and so was given the new and lasting name of the "White House."

Welcome to

FUN PHONICS

Children, Today's Joy!

Phonics is the method of teaching beginners to read by using the *sounds* and the *names* of the *letters of the alphabet*.

The letters of the alphabet can be divided into two groups, **vowels** and **consonants**.

Vowels There are five vowels **a, e, i, o, and u**.

Most vowels are either:

short (**van, pet, in, lot, fun** - the vowel sounds) or
long (**cake, Pete, bike, home, tune** - the vowel names).

Consonants The rest of the letters of the alphabet are consonants which use their *sounds* to help pronounce words (**van, pet, in, lot, fun, etc.**).

Acquiring the skill of reading by *sounding out the letters*, by putting the vowels and the consonants together, eliminates the need of memorizing tens of thousands of words.

Once the sounds of the alphabet have been learned, only the exceptions need to be memorized. (An example of such an exception is the word "phonics" in which the use of the letters "p" and "h" together makes an "f" sound. Many of these exceptions will be featured in Part 2.)

And now, **FUN PHONICS, Children, Today's Joy!** and the wonderful world of reading!

As we begin, let's remember that learning specialist Laura Zirbes noted that children are often confused by separating related learnings. **FUN PHONICS, Children, Today's Joy!** interweaves geography, geometric shapes, numbers, and music into the books in order to feature their relatedness, and to stimulate the creative potential in your student's drawing, writing and thinking!

Let your student write, draw, color, and create in these books. May **FUN PHONICS!** be the base from which your student creates new characters, new stories, new visions!

Part 1

Part 1 is designed to be your student's first reader and activity set. It features the short vowels and is made up of eleven books. There are two books for each of the five short vowels and one review book.

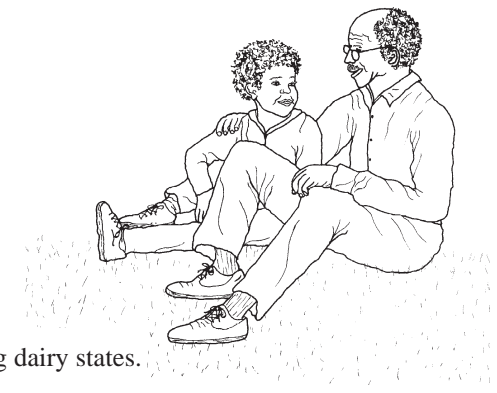
In each of the first ten books a short story features a child and her or his pet. The children and their pets join in a cross-country van trip in the eleventh book, the review book.

Jan is a _____.
Jan sat on a _____.
_____ has a mat.
(13)

SELF EXPRESSION and COMPREHENSION

Each of the first ten books contains three sentence completion activities. In these fill-in-the-blank sentences, the student expresses both comprehension and artistic self expression by drawing pictures that complete the sentences.

The eleventh book features six of these activities.



Drake - Iowa
Drake (University)

Plume the Crane - Minnesota
crane = whooping crane, endangered.

Sunshine - Wisconsin
Wisconsin is one of the nation's leading dairy states.

Play - Michigan
Empire, Michigan = Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore (sand dunes, moss, cedar swamps and hardwood forests).

Pals 5

Drew's Stew - Illinois
Drew = Nancy Drew, fictional teenage detective by Carolyn Keene.

Kirk's Birds - Kentucky
kirk = a church (Scot. and N. England).

Burl - Alabama
burl = a small knot or lump in wool, thread or cloth. a dome shaped growth on the trunk of a tree.

The Space Center - Florida
Space Center = The Kennedy Space Center.

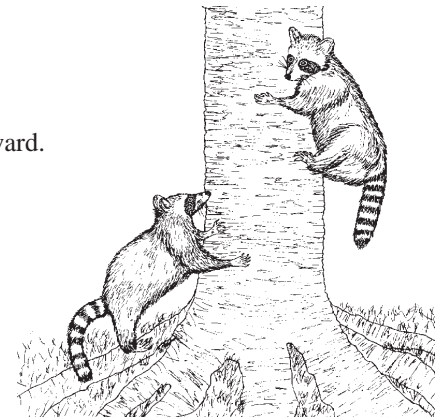
Pals 6

The Tree - Georgia
Athens, Georgia = The tree is a white oak.

The Carriage - South Carolina
Porgy and Bess = a play by DuBose Heyward.

Smoky and Cade - North Carolina
Smoky = Great Smoky Mountains.

Cade = Cade County



dale = a valley, esp. a broad valley.
a small open river valley partly
enclosed by low hills.

Eve - Nebraska
eve = the evening or day preceding
a certain day.

Mike - Kansas
mike = Mike, nickname for Michael. informal, a microphone.



Coal the Mole - Oklahoma
Oklahoma is from Choctaw, okla humma, which means land of the red people.

coal = black or dark brown combustible mineral substance consisting of carbonized
vegetable matter, used as a fuel.

mole = a small usually slightly raised and dark growth on the skin. a small burrowing
mammal with a narrow snout, minute eyes and silky fur. a massive stone wall used as
a break water.

doe = a mature female deer. a female of various mammal such as the hare or kangaroo.

Voe = n. an inlet or narrow bay of the Orkney and Shetland Islands.

Muse - Arkansas
muse = a source of inspiration. to reflect or meditate in silence. Greek mythology, the
muses were nine in number, the daughters of Zeus and Mnemosyne.

Cote - Louisiana
cote = side, coast. a small cottage. a shelter for sheep, pigeons.

Pals 4

Steve - Mississippi
Steve appears again in Pals 6 along with his parents Mr. and Mrs. Choctaw.

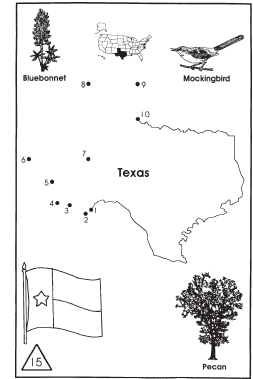
blaze = a bright flame or fire. to exhibit vividly. a spot or mark made on a tree as by
notching or chipping away a piece of wood to indicate a boundary or path. to make
known, proclaim.

Twain - Missouri
Twain = Mark Twain (Samuel Longhorne Clemens, 1835-1910) author of *Adventures
of Tom Sawyer* and *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*.

GEOGRAPHY

Five of the first ten books have a state
reference page featuring an individual state
and showing its bird, tree, flower and flag.
States featured in Part 1 are Ohio, Texas,
New Mexico, New York and California.

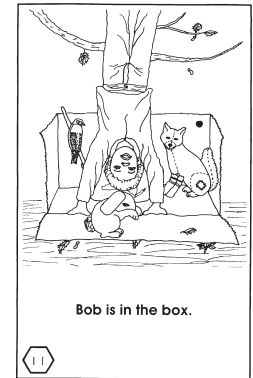
The eleventh book features a map of the
United States.



PHONICS

Part 1 introduces the short vowels a, e, i, o
and u in a consonant-vowel-consonant pat-
tern (pan, sit, hut) and in a vowel-consonant
pattern (at, in, on). Each vowel has two
independent, color-coded books.

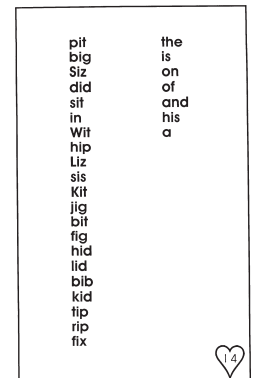
The eleventh book reviews all the short
vowels.

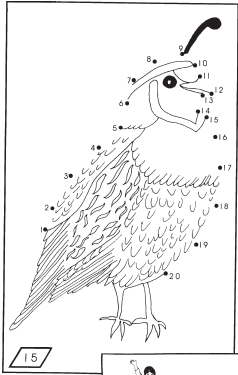


VOCABULARY

Each book has two vocabulary columns.
The first column lists the words in the short
vowel pattern featured in that particular
book. The second column lists the rest of the
vocabulary.

Several words with short vowels are placed
in the second column because they have a
consonant which is not pronounced as it
looks, such as in the words has, is and his,
where the “s” has a “z” sound. Sight (non-
phonetic) words are also placed in this col-
umn. Using such words help make the
stories more fun and challenging.

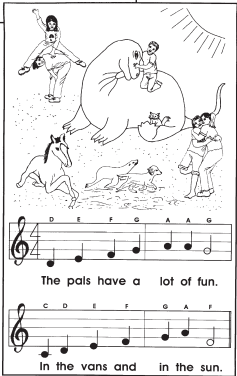




NUMBERS

In the first book of each vowel a by-the-number dot-to-dot activity reveals the shape of a state's borders. In the other five books the dot-to-dot is one of the story's illustrations.

The dot-to-dot in the eleventh book features the continental United States.

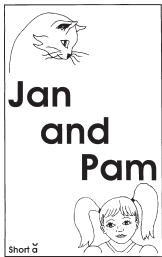


MUSIC

In Part 1 sentences from each book are taken from the stories and set to music. The music reinforces the particular vowel sound and it acquaints your student with the musical scale from the piano's middle C to the next upward A.

The music also offers opportunities for social interaction. Sing together!

PUNCTUATION marks introduced in Part 1 are the period (.), the question mark (?), and the exclamation point (!).



Jan and Pam *and* The Van

feature the short vowel **a** (cat). The geometric shape enclosing the page numbers in the first book is a circle and in the **a** review book the shape is a square.



Rex and Tex *and* The Bed

feature the short vowel **e** (bed). The geometric shape enclosing the page numbers in the first book is a triangle and in the **e** review book the shape is a rectangle.

elk = the largest living deer. also called wapiti, a large North American deer.

The Gift Box - Nevada

Fran = Francisco Garces, a Spanish priest was probably the first white explorer to enter the state and apparently penetrate the extreme southern Nevada in 1776.

Pals 2

The Shop - Arizona

whizz = also whizz, to make a whirring or hissing sound. One with notable expertise. jack. a fellow. a playing card bearing or representing a knave. the male of certain animals. a game played with a set of six pronged metal pieces and a ball. a small flag on a ship usually indicating nationality.

Chub - Utah

chub = humpback chub is on Utah's endangered fauna list.

gull = Utah's state bird. long wings and webbed feet (aquatic bird). n. gullible person, dupe. person. v. to dupe, cheat.

Bells - Wyoming

buck = a male animal (deer, rabbit). a high spirited young man. to leap suddenly forward. to butt (against). to throw. to resist stubbornly. of the lowest rank (buck sergeant). slang, a dollar.

calf = the young of certain mammals (cow, elephant, bull). the back part of the leg between the knee and the ankle.

lamb = a young sheep, a sweet, gentle person.

Lunch - Montana

Chet = Charles Russell, painter and sculptor.

Chums - North Dakota

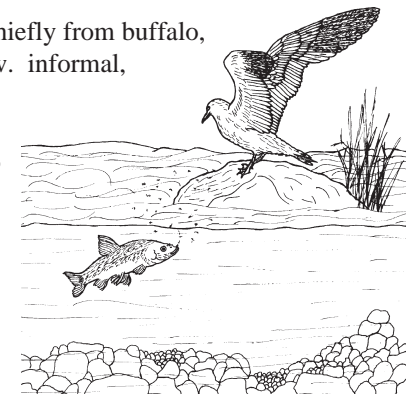
buff = a buffalo. a soft, thick leather made chiefly from buffalo, elk, or oxen skins. a moderate or light yellow. informal, the bare skin. an enthusiast.

Pals 3

Vail and Dale - Colorado

Vail = a mountain town in Colorado.

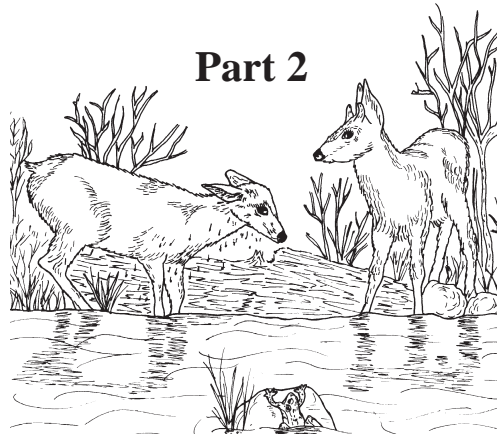
vail = to lower. to let sink. to move to the valley.



sum = an indefinite or specified amount of money. the whole amount.

pun = to beat with telling force. the humorous use of a word in such a way as to suggest different meaning or applications or of words having the same or nearly the same sound but different meanings. play on words.

pug = a dear one, sweetheart, pet. a small sturdy compact dog of a breed introduced from Asia into Europe. something that is short and squat, pug nose. a compacted mass of (clay, mortar). a footprint. esp. a print of a wild mammal.



Part 2

Pals 1

Gram - Hawaii

gram = abbr. for grandmother. a metric unit of mass, equal to 15.432 grains, one thousandth of a kilogram. in the Orient, the chickpea, used as a food for man and cattle. in the *Volsunga Saga*, the sword of Sigmund, broken by Odin, repaired by Regin, used again by Sigurd in killing Fafnir.

Bulk - Alaska

bulk = magnitude in three dimensions. the greater part. the main mass or body. a structure such as a stall, projecting from the front of a building.

clip = to cut, or cut off or out as with shears. a device that grips and holds tightly.

Brad - Washington

brad = a slender wire nail having either a small, deep head or a projection to one side of the head end. to fasten with brads.

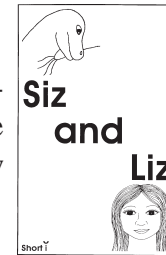
cab = a taxicab or horse-drawn cab.

The Twins - Oregon

twin = either of two children or animals brought forth at a birth. either of two persons or things closely related to or closely resembling each other.

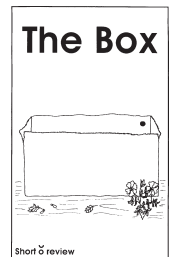
Siz and Liz and The Pit

feature the short vowel **i** (sit). The geometric shape enclosing the page numbers in the first book is a diamond and in the **i** review book the shape is a heart.



Dod and Bob and The Box

feature the short vowel **o** (top). The geometric shape enclosing the page numbers in the first book is a star and in the **o** review book the shape is a hexagon.



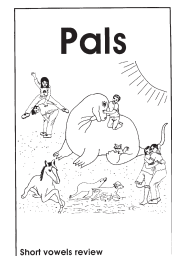
Hun and Sum and The Hut

feature the short vowel **u** (hug). The geometric shape enclosing the page numbers in the first book is an ellipse and in the **u** review book the shape is a parallelogram.



Pals

This last book of Part 1 reviews all the short vowels. It also introduces the plural noun **s** (vans) and the singular verb **s** (runs). The geometric shape enclosing the page numbers is a quatrefoil.



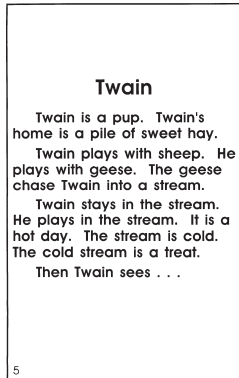
Part 2

Part 2 is made up of eight books of short stories, sentence completion and comprehension activities, and state reference pages.

The first five books of Part 2 introduce new phonic patterns. The final three books review all the patterns featured in **FUN PHONICS, Children, Today's Joy!** and introduce new word variations (beauty, friends, etc.) as well as compound and multisyllable words.

While continuing to incorporate geography, number recognition and self expression, Part 2 also explores the areas of zoology, history, and global unity.

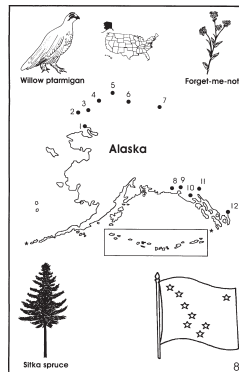
In Part 2 each book applies the phonics learned from previous stories so the books should be read in the correct order.



SELF EXPRESSION

At least one story in each book has an O. Henry-type ending in which your student decides how the story ends. Your student may describe the ending verbally, draw a picture or write the ending on the expression page. On many pages students write and/or draw their own stories.

Your help is essential in the explanation of these personalized activities.



NUMBERS

The state reference page for each story has a dot-to-dot number activity which reveals the shape of that state's borders.

kit = a wooden tub or small barrel as for butter, milk, water, fish. a collection of equipment and supplies typically carried in a box or bag. a small violin formerly used by dancing masters. short for kitten.

wit = to know or be aware of. knowledge, understanding. reasoning power, intelligence. an imaginatively perceptive and articulate individual esp. skilled in banter.

kid = a young goat esp. one under one year old. child, youngster. slang, a young person marked by proficiency or expertness (quite some kid when it comes to staying in the public eye). younger, kid sister, kid brother. to deceive, fool. to make fun of usually good-humoredly and often by innocent deception. a bundle of heath and twigs. (fagot). to bind in bundles. the seed pod of a legume. a sailors mess tub.

Dod and Bob - New York

dod = a perforated metal plate through which clay is forced to mold it to a desired shape. an annular die for making drain pipe. dod, dodd = to lop or cut hair or wool, (from sheep). to poll.

bob = strike, pommel. to strike with a quick, light blow. small birds bobbing all over the yard. a short quick down and up motion. deceive, fool, cheat. a bunch or cluster. a small bouquet of flowers. to cut one's hair in the style of a bob. nickname for Robert. short for bobsled, bobwhite.

pod = a bit socket in a brace. a dry seed vessel or fruit that is either monocarpellary (as a legume). a protective envelope (as a cocoon). a number of animals (as seals or whales) closely clustered together: school.

cob = corncob. a male swan. a great black backed gull. a short legged horse.

lop = to cut off the smaller branches and twigs - as a tree. to jump, leap. to hang downward, flop or sway about loosely: droop. a variety or breed of domestic rabbits having very large ears that are usually too heavy to be carried erect and fall to the side of the head. a rabbit of the Lop breed. a condition of the sea in which the waves are short and choppy. LOP, line of position.

Hun and Sum - California

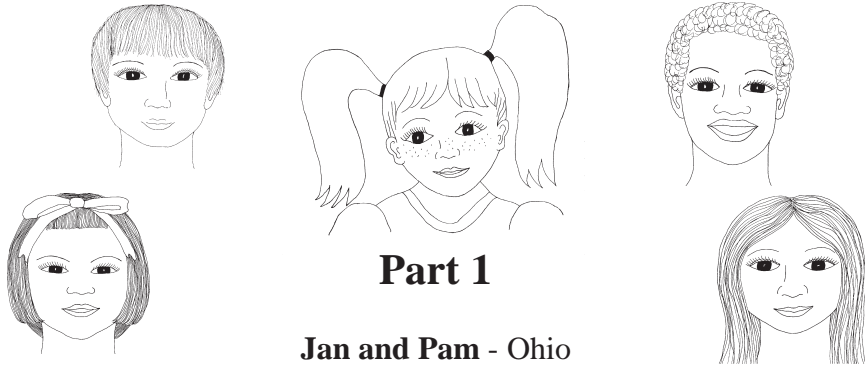
Hun (cap) = a member of a nomadic Mongolian people who were driven westward from Mongolia about A.D. 200 and obtained control of a large portion of central and eastern Europe under Attila about the middle of the 5th century. a person who is wantonly destructive: vandal. abbr. hundred.



Story Notes

by
Trish Mylet

In writing the **FUN PHONICS, Children, Today's Joy!** books, I researched words for meaning as well as for pronunciation. When choosing a location, or the name of a character, I looked for interesting places and people in history, literature, art and music. Writing the stories was fun and full of surprises. In Georgia a tree owns the land on which it grows, and in Vermont there have been sightings of a sea serpent, and "dod" really is a word. Enjoy!



Jan and Pam - Ohio

jan = JAN, joint army/navy
Jan = short for Janette

pam = short for Greek Pamphilos, beloved of all. the jack of clubs in loo. abbr. pulse-amplitude modulation.

Rex and Tex - Texas

rex = king. a genetic variation esp. of the domestic rabbit and various rodents which behaves as a simple recessive and in which the guard hairs are shorter than the undercoat or entirely lacking.

Tex = abbr. Texas

deb = a debutante. an adolescent girl who belongs to a (street) gang.
Deb = short for Deborah, Debbie.

zed = chiefly Brit: the letter z.

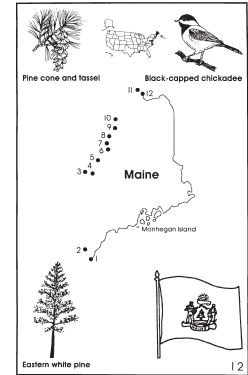
Siz and Liz - New Mexico

siz = the seismosaurus dinosaur. diminutive is Siz.

GEOGRAPHY

Every story has a state reference page which features an individual state and shows its bird, tree, flower and flag. A small map of the United States shows its geographical location.

Featured in Part 2 are the District of Columbia and the 45 states not covered in Part 1. The last book of this part contains a map of the world.



PHONICS

The first five books of Part 2 introduce new sounds and patterns: blends, digraphs, long vowels and diverse vowels. These are explained as you come to them.

The last three books review the patterns featured in both parts.

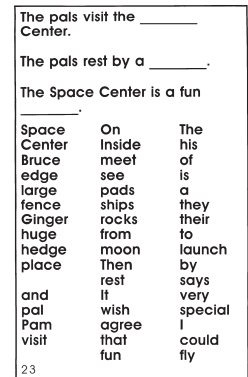
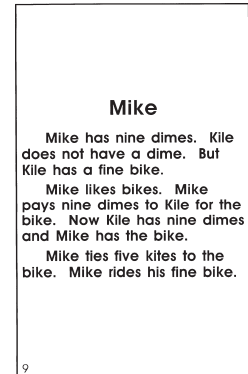
Mike

Mike has nine dimes. Kile does not have a dime. But Kile has a fine bike.
Mike likes bikes. Mike pays nine dimes to Kile for the bike. Now Kile has nine dimes and Mike has the bike.
Mike ties five kites to the bike. Mike rides his fine bike.

VOCABULARY

Each story in the first five books is followed by a vocabulary list. Listed first is the new phonic pattern featured in that particular story and then the familiar phonics. Familiar phonics are the patterns introduced in earlier stories. The sight (non-phonetic) words are listed last.

The last three books omit the vocabulary lists. These books introduce compound and multisyllable words, and new noun and proper noun sight words in order to present more developed and challenging stories.



"Oh Ross, I love you!"
laughed Betsy. She gave Ross
another big hug and ran to
her room. She opened the
door and found . . .
Draw what Betsy found in her room.

Ross is Betsy's big _____.
Ross gave wonderful _____.
When Ross was lonely Betsy
played _____ with him.

23

COMPREHENSION

The first seven books have sentence completion activities. In Part 2 the completion needs to be written and not drawn as may be done in Part 1.

PUNCTUATION marks introduced in this part are the quotation mark ("), the possessive s and its apostrophe ('), the comma (,), the dash (-) and the guess ellipse (. . .).



Pals 1

Short vowels and blends are featured in these stories.

Blends occur when two consonants come together and are pronounced together, yet each retains its own sound (**gr** as in **grin**, and **nd** as in **and**).



Pals 2

Short vowels and digraphs are featured in these stories.

Digraphs are formed when two successive letters form a new sound (**sh** as in **shop**, and **ch** as in **lunch**).



Pals 3

Long vowels (a, e, i, o and u) are introduced in this book.

The long vowels are pronounced like their names (**a** as in **lake**, and **e** as in **Pete**, etc.).

The letter **y** is featured as a long vowel that sounds like the long **i** (**y** as in **bye**).

PHONICS Review Reader 1

TITLE(S) Pals 6

The Tree
The Carriage
Smoky and Cade
The Lighthouses
Rafting
Betsy and Ross

STATE

Georgia
South Carolina
North Carolina
Virginia
West Virginia
Pennsylvania

Review Reader 2

Pals 7

The Lake
Skiing
The Lobsters
The Subway
The Ferry
The Robins

Vermont
New Hampshire
Maine
Massachusetts
Rhode Island
Connecticut

Review Reader 3

Pals 8

The Boardwalk
The Eagles
The Airplane
The White House
Children, Chapter 1*
Children, Chapter 2*

New Jersey
Delaware
Maryland
Washington, D.C.
(Not a state)

* These last two stories feature children from the seven continents.



PHONICS
Short vowels
and digraphs

TITLE(S)

Pals 2
 The Shop
 Chub
 Bells
 Lunch
 Jill
 Scott

STATE

Arizona
 Utah
 Wyoming
 Montana
 North Dakota
 South Dakota

Long vowels

Pals 3

Vail and Dale
 Eve
 Mike
 Coal the Mole
 Muse
 Cote

Colorado
 Nebraska
 Kansas
 Oklahoma
 Arkansas
 Louisiana

Long vowels,
blends and
digraphs

Pals 4

Steve
 Twain
 Drake
 Plume the Crane
 Sunshine
 Play

Mississippi
 Missouri
 Iowa
 Minnesota
 Wisconsin
 Michigan

Diverse vowels,
blends and
digraphs

Pals 5

Paul's Barn
 Drew's Stew
 Kirk's Birds
 The Clown & The Cooking Clown
 Burl
 The Space Center

Indiana
 Illinois
 Kentucky
 Tennessee
 Alabama
 Florida

The two long vowel patterns featured in this book are the **double vowel pattern**, and the **vowel-consonant-vowel** pattern.

The **double vowel** pattern is formed when two vowels are placed next to each other such as in the words **feet** and **neat**.

The **vowel-consonant-vowel** pattern is formed by using a *silent e* at the end of a word such as in the words **made** and **wake**.

This change in the pronunciation of the vowels from their *short sounds* to their *long names* might be confusing to the beginning reader. One way to help express this phonic rule was suggested by a teacher who explains to her students that the vowels are rather shy when by themselves, as in the short vowels, so their sounds are soft (van, pet). However, the vowels are like very good friends who are stronger when together. Thus, when two vowels come together, as in the long vowels, the first vowel speaks for both and the sound is strong. This is true whether the vowels are right next to each other (**feed, leap**), or whether they are separated by a consonant (**cake, Mike**).

The first five stories focus on the long vowels a, e, i, o and u. The sixth story incorporates them and introduces y (**Lyle** and **bye**).

Long vowel words that have the letter s with a z sound (nose, muse) are placed in the sight word column.

Pals 4

Long vowels, blends and digraphs are featured in this book.

Long vowel words that do not follow the double vowel or the vowel-consonant-vowel patterns (go, he, rolling, high, . . .) are placed in the sight word column.

Pals 5

Introduced in this book are a few of the exceptions to the short and long vowels, the diverse vowels. Also featured are more blends and digraphs.



The first story focuses on **a** and its diversities **au, aw, ar, al, all** and **wa**.

The second story focuses on **e** and its diversities **ew** and **er**.

The third story focuses on **i** and its **ir** diversity.

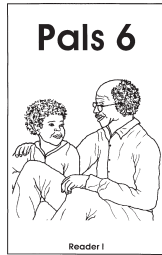
The fourth story in Pals 5 focuses on the **o** diversities and is divided into two sections.

Story 4a focuses on **ou, oi, ow, oo** (as in **zoom**) and **wor** (**world**).

Story 4b focuses on **or** and **oo** (as in **good**).

The fifth story focuses on **u** and its **ur** diversity.

The sixth story focuses on the soft **c** (place), soft **g** (**huge**) and the **dge** (**hedge**) ending.

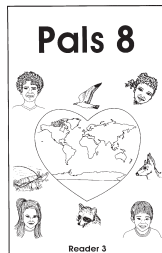
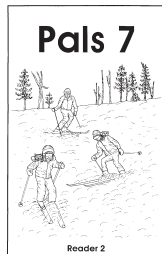


Pals 6, Pals 7, and Pals 8

These last three books review all the word patterns featured in both Part 1 and Part 2.

Pals 6, 7, and 8 also use more compound words (two words put together to make up one word as in **lighthouse**).

These last three books also use three or more syllable words (**wonderful**) and new sight words (**beauty, friends, etc.**).

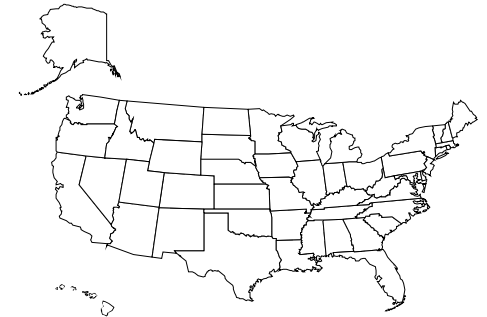


Pals 8

This book features the seven continents and children from around the world.

Pals 8 also unites many of the children from earlier stories. As our stories began, so do they end, with joy and hope!

PHONICS, TITLES, AND GEOGRAPHIC EMPHASIS



Part 1

PHONICS	TITLE(S)	STATE
Short a	Jan and Pam The Van	Ohio
Short e	Rex and Tex The Bed	Texas
Short i	Siz and Liz The Pit	New Mexico
Short o	Dod and Bob The Box	New York
Short u	Hun and Sum The Hut	California
Short vowels review	Pals	Continental United States

Part 2

PHONICS	TITLE(S)	STATE
Short vowels and blends	Pals 1 Gram Bulk Brad The Twins The Wind The Gift Box	Hawaii Alaska Washington Oregon Idaho Nevada