

FIRST GRADE

2021-2022 EDITION

TIMBERDOODLE'S
CURRICULUM HANDBOOK

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WE'RE SO GLAD YOU'RE HERE!

Congratulations on choosing to homeschool this year! Whether this is your first year as a teacher or your tenth, we're confident you'll find that there is very little that compares to watching your child's learning take off. In fact, teaching can be quite addictive, so be forewarned!

On Your Mark, Get Set, Go!

Preparing for your first school day is very easy. Peruse this guide, look over the typical schedule, browse the introductions in your books, and you will be ready to go.

We are here to help

We would love to assist you if questions come up, so please don't hesitate to contact us with any questions, comments, or concerns. Whether you contact us by phone, email, or live online chat, you will get a real person who is eager to serve you and your family.

You will love this!

This year you and your student will learn more than you hoped while having a blast. Ready? Have an absolutely amazing year!

Schedule Customizer

Your 2021-2022 First-Grade Curriculum Kit includes access to our Schedule Customizer, where you can not only adjust the school weeks but also tweak the checklist to include exactly what you want on your schedule. To get started, just click the link in your access email and visit the scheduling website!
www.TimberdoodleSchedules.com

If you ordered through a charter school or don't have that link for some other reason, just email schedules@Timberdoodle.com and we'll get that sorted out ASAP. (Including your order number will really speed up that process for you.)

Get Support

Are you looking for a place to hang out online with like-minded homeschoolers? Do you wonder how someone else handled a particular science kit? Or do you wish you could encourage someone who is just getting started this year? Join one or more of our online groups.

Timberdoodlers of all ages:
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/Timberdoodle/>

Timberdoodlers of all ages:
<https://mewe.com/join/timberdoodleshomeschoolcommunity>

Timberdoodlers with 1st- to 4th-grade students:
www.facebook.com/groups/ElementaryTimberdoodle

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Meet Your Handbook

WELCOME



MEET YOUR HANDBOOK

WELCOME TO YOUR TEACHING TOOLBOX!

Simple Is Better

We really believe that, so your guide is as simple as we could make it.

1. The Planning

First up are all the details on planning your year, including your annual planner and sample weekly checklists, the absolute backbones of Timberdoodle's curriculum kits. More on those in a moment.

2. Item-by-Item Details

We include short bios of each item in your kit, ideal for refreshing your memory on why each is included or to show off exactly what your first-grader will be covering this year. This is where we've tucked in our tips or tricks to make this year more awesome for all of you.

3. Teacher Resources

In this section you'll find our favorite articles and tidbits amassed in our more-than-30 years of homeschool experience.

4. Specific Details

Here you'll find 52 ideas for using Mad Mattr this year as well as your Plus-Plus models..

5. Reading Challenge

Last but not least is the reading challenge, complete with hundreds of book ideas to give you a head start.

All the Details Included

This Timberdoodle curriculum kit is available in three different standard levels: Basic, Complete, or Elite. This allows you to choose the assortment best suited to your child's interest level, your family's schedule, and your budget. In this guide, you'll find an overview and any tips for each of the items included in the Elite Curriculum Kit. If you purchased a Basic or Complete kit, or if you customized your kit, you chose not to receive every item, so you'll only need to familiarize yourself with the ones which were included in your kit.

Don't Panic—You Didn't Order Too Much Stuff!

We know you. OK, maybe not you personally, but we have yet to meet a homeschooler who doesn't have other irons in the fire. From homesteading or running a business to swimming lessons or doctor appointments, your weeks are not dull. As you unpack your box, you may be asking yourself how you'll ever fit it all in. We'll go in-depth on schedules momentarily, but for now, know that most of the items in your kit feature short lessons, not all of them should be done every day, and your checklist is going to make this incredibly manageable. Really!

MEET YOUR ONLINE SCHEDULER

GETTING THE MOST OUT OF YOUR PLANNER

Use the Customizer

On the following pages, you'll find sample weekly checklists for Basic, Complete, and Elite kits. Before you photocopy 36 of them, though, take a moment to check out the custom online schedule builder that came free with your kit. You can easily adjust the weeks and tweak the checklist to include exactly what you want. Plus, you'll be able to print your weekly checklists directly from the schedule builder!

www.TimberdoodleSchedules.com

Activate Your Account

You'll need to activate your account for the online schedule builder to get started. Head over to www.TimberdoodleSchedules.com and create a login, and then click the "Redeem" button at the top of the page to input your activation code and start scheduling!

Your activation code is affixed to the back of this handbook for your convenience.

What's Your Dream Schedule?

Now that you're ready, you'll want to know two things:

1. How Many Weeks Will You Do School?

A standard school year is 36 weeks plus breaks. Some families prefer to expedite and complete the entire year in fewer weeks—a great option to get this year's school done before a baby arrives, for instance. Or perhaps your family, like ours, prefers to school year-round and keep that brain sharp.

2. What Breaks Do You Want?

Thanksgiving, Christmas, winter break, spring break... you could also add weeks off for travel, visiting grandparents, or...

Typically you'll be adding full-week breaks, so unless you're traveling to Disneyland® for little Jotham's birthday, you don't need to add that to the calendar. For single-day breaks, you can easily shuffle the work to earlier or later in the same week and stay on schedule.



Choose Your Items

Now just pop that data into the online scheduler and scroll down to see the items you might have in your kit. Unchecking the boxes for any items you don't have removes them from your list. You'll also see "Alternative Items" listed under each subject. This usually includes all of our most popular customizations for this grade so that you can simply check a box and switch the scheduler to an advanced level of math, for instance.

Add Custom Courses

Your course list is limited only by your imagination. Perhaps your friend created a custom curriculum you want to include, your family band practices weekly, or you need to include ballet since that's P.E. this year. At the very bottom of the page you'll find a place to add as many courses as you'd like. Just walk through the prompts on-screen to get it all set up.

Tweak It to Perfection

On the next screen, you'll have some fun options to make your schedule and checklist work for you.

YOUR ANNUAL PLANNER

| | CURRICULUM | LESSONS OR PAGES | = PER WEEK |
|--------------------------|---|------------------|------------------|
| Language Arts | All About Reading | 54 lessons | 20 minutes a day |
| | Daily 6-Trait Writing | 25 weeks | 1 week's work |
| | Spelling You See Level B | 36 weeks | 10 minutes a day |
| | Imagidice | unlimited | once a week |
| Math | Math-U-See | 30 lessons | 1 lesson |
| | Wrap-Ups Addition & Subtraction | 20 boards | once a week |
| | Möbi Kids | unlimited | once a week |
| Thinking Skills | See your handbook for the complete chart. | | |
| History & Social Studies | | | |

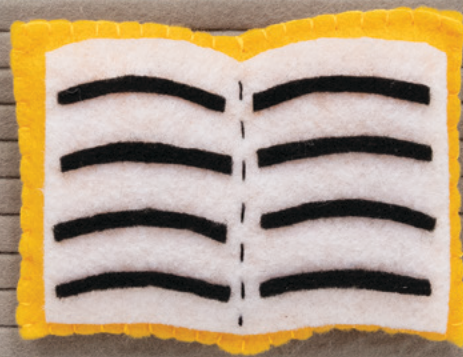
WEEKLY CHECKLIST

ELITE (PAGE 1)

| | Language Arts | Math | Thinking Skills | History & Social Studies | Geography |
|---------------------------------|------------------|------|-----------------|--------------------------|-----------|
| All About Reading | 20 minutes a day | | | | |
| Daily 6-Trait Writing | 1 week's work | | | | |
| Spelling You See Level B | 10 minutes a day | | | | |
| Imagidice | once a week | | | | |
| Math-U-See | 1 lesson | | | | |
| Wrap-Ups Addition & Subtraction | once a week | | | | |
| Möbi Kids | once a week | | | | |

See your handbook for the complete chart.

The Reading Challenge



THE READING CHALLENGE

EXPLORING THE GLOBE (FIRST- THROUGH THIRD-GRADE)

The Reading Challenge for kids will get you and your child reading a broader variety of books this year while covering essential topics.

New this year, your reading challenge will loop through 18 topics up to 6 times this year. Each loop will add breadth to your child's reading and most include a new subcategory to explore if no ideas present themselves.

Reading Solo and Together

At this grade level, he will read some of these books independently and you will read many together. Don't be too eager to loose the one-on-one reading time either. Many sources recommend that parents continue reading to their children well past the time their children become accomplished readers, and we agree!

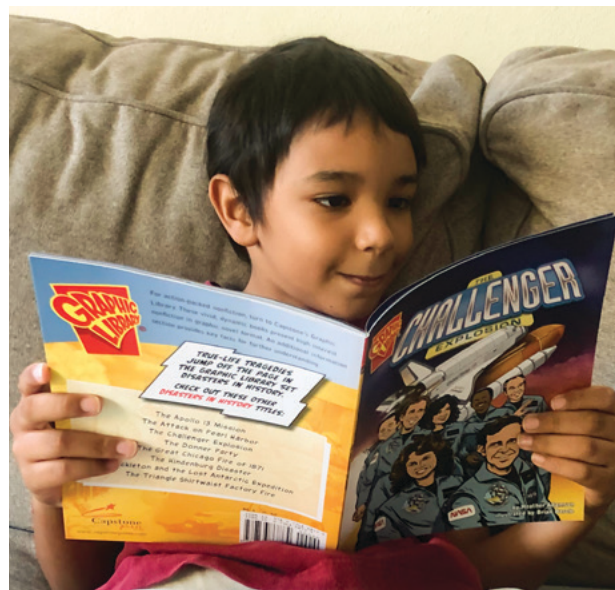
How It Works

At the back of this handbook you'll find four versions of this year's book list, ranging from 1 book every two weeks to three books a week. Choose a reading goal early in the year and set your pace accordingly, keeping in mind what is realistic for your family this year.

The Light Reader plan has 36 books, which sets a pace of 1 book every week. This includes 2 loops through each major category. The majority of families can and should do at least this much.

The Avid Reader plan doubles the pace to 72 books, which increases the pace to 2 book every week. If you choose this option you'll be completing four loops through the main topics this year. This is doable for most families, especially if you're liberal with picture books!

PHOTO: THE PERS FAMILY OF THE
DUTCH CARIBBEAN



The Committed Reader plan adds 36 more books, bringing the total to 108, or 3 books every school week. We think that even this faster pace is not too rigorous for most students and is suitable for enthusiastic readers with time in their schedules. This schedule takes you through the main loop 6 times, offering your student a chance to try several options in each.

The Obsessed Reader plan adds a final 36 books, bringing the total to 144, or 4 books every school week. We highly recommend this challenge, which completes the loop 8 times, but it may be too intense for families with limited library access!

Getting Started

Begin with the Light plan, which includes suggestions for 36 books. Choose those books and read them in any order, logging each one as you complete it. Next, advance to the Avid plan, choosing another 36 books to read in any order. Then it's time to move to the Committed plan with 36 more books, again reading them in any order.

When possible, choose a different subcategory than you did the first time. (E.G., if you're currently choosing a Community Helpers book, and you chose one on doctors last time, try one on police, firefighters, or a dentist on your second loop through the topics.) We've offered suggestions for the first 6 loops in case your child is drawing a blank, but feel free to choose any book under that main subheading.

If you have completed the Committed plan (that's 108 books so far!), you are ready to brave the Obsessed plan. If you want to finish your books in a calendar year rather than in a typical school year, the timeline shifts a bit, so be sure to set your goal at the beginning of the year and pace yourself accordingly.

Here's the pace for a 36-week schedule:

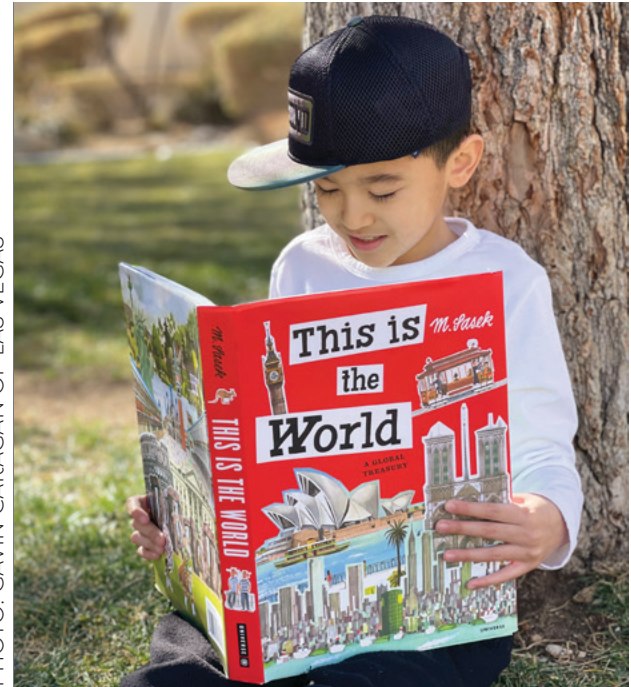
- ▶ **Light Reader: One book every week.**
- ▶ **Avid Reader: Two books per week.**
- ▶ **Committed Reader: Three books every week.**
- ▶ **Obsessed Reader: Four books every week.**

But I Don't Have Any Idea Which Books to Choose!

We have your back! At the end of this handbook you'll find thousands of book ideas you'll love this year.

If you want more ideas, we highly recommend your local librarian, the Read-Aloud Revival podcast, and

PHOTO: GAVIN CARAGAN OF LAS VEGAS



the Timberdoodle Facebook groups as excellent starting points. It's also a wonderful idea to peek at the additional reading ideas in your history or science textbooks – particularly if your child found he was fascinated by something his courses recently touched on.

Will This Be Expensive?

It doesn't need to be. You can read library books and e-books, buy used, borrow from friends, and scour your family bookshelves. Don't forget that many libraries have free e-books and audiobooks, as well. It doesn't get much more convenient than that!

Let's Read! Pick your plan, choose some books with your child, and get started!

Mathematics



MATHEMATICS

A FUNDAMENTAL SKILL

Basic math is a critical skill for your child to master, whether he grows up to be a carpenter, doctor, accountant, or farmer. But all too often math programs rely on memorization instead of comprehension, leaving the student at a disadvantage.

That's not going to happen to your child! The real-world math problems posed in Math-U-See, combined with the hands-on manipulatives, create an unbeatable first-grade math program.

The Math-U-See manipulatives are a versatile workhorse. Not only are they integral to the curriculum, but they also facilitate a depth of mathematical awareness in free play and fun, experimental activities.

Begin by having your child sequence the Math-U-See manipulative blocks from the shortest to the longest. Because of their precise etched segments, the manipulatives can also be used to guess and measure common items around the house. Or build a corral for those toy horses and chat about perimeter.

By using the Math-U-See manipulative blocks, your child will more easily grasp that a one-unit block plus a nine-unit block equals a ten-unit block. And that's before you even crack open the textbooks!



LEARNING WRAP-UPS

BASIC // COMPLETE // ELITE

Even though math should never be just drill, it is a rare child who would not benefit from some drill work to increase speed.

Your children use Wrap-ups in the car, at the beach, at the doctor's office, or even during a home-school meeting; the possibilities are endless! Because of the portability of Wrap-ups, they can be practiced anywhere. Wrap-ups are excellent for drill-work. Challenge your child to complete a board in less than a minute before he starts the next board.

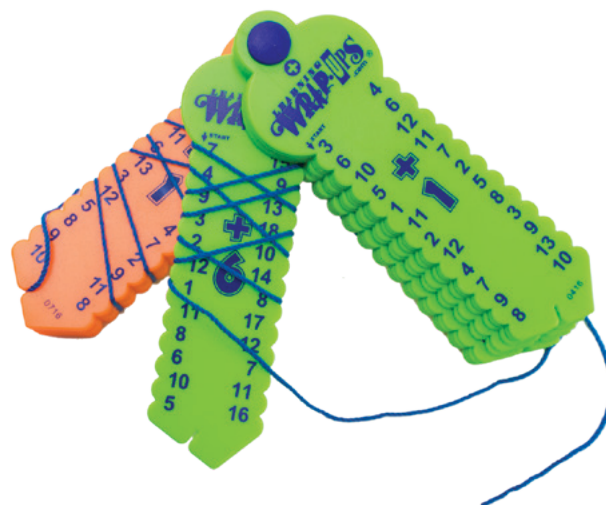
The first few times your child uses Wrap-ups you'll want to plan on some coaching. The string wraps around from the problem on the left to the answer on the right, and the motor planning involved can take a few weeks before your child really becomes fluent at that.

If the answers are correct, the string will cover the lines on the back of the board.

This is a wonderful tool for visual and kinesthetic children, and if you encourage them to say the problems aloud, it is equally marvelous for auditory children. Because it is self-correcting, your children will have immediate feedback for checking accuracy (plus, it takes you out of the picture as the bearer of "bad news").

Scheduling

Start using these Wrap-ups after your child has learned the concepts of addition and subtraction. We suggest getting these out at least once a week until he has mastered both sets.



MATH-U-SEE

BASIC // COMPLETE // ELITE



With simple, uncluttered pages, Math-U-See is mastery oriented, clear, to the point, and effective. In Math-U-See, new ideas are introduced step by step in a logical order, while concepts that have been mastered are reviewed periodically.

Math-U-See's teacher guide and supplemental DVD will teach more than just how to solve a math problem. They will also show why the problem is solved in this manner and when to apply the concept. On the DVDs, each lesson is demonstrated with kind-hearted enthusiasm. DVDs can be played on a DVD player or computer; however, Windows 10 users will need to download a separate video player.

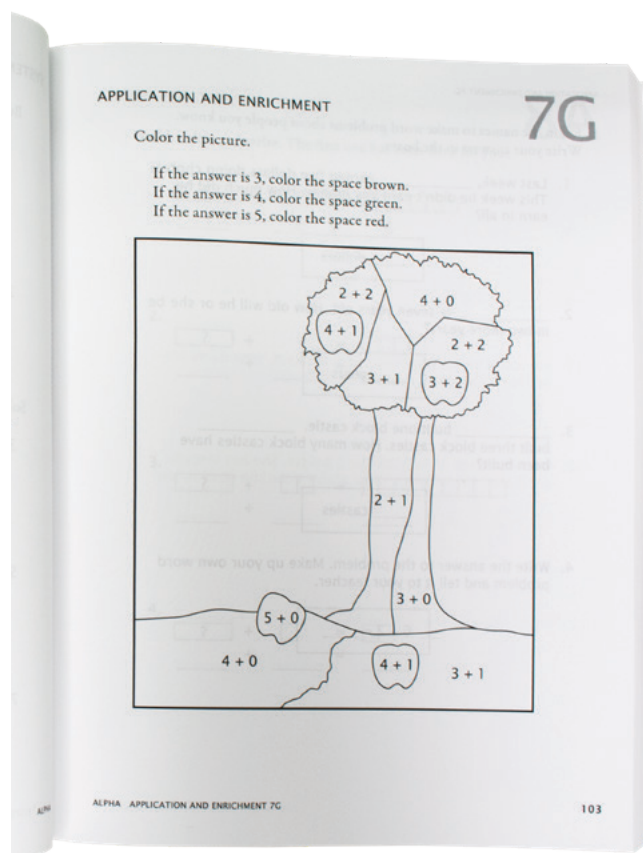
Math-U-See does require a fair amount of parental involvement. At first glance, it can seem overwhelming, but the maker of this math program has bent over backwards

to make the lesson planning as painless as possible. Still, at this grade, feel free to merely skim the teacher's guide, as it is pretty straightforward.

One *Math-U-See* lesson is designed to consist of several parts:

- A video lesson
- Worksheet A, teaching this lesson's concept
- Worksheet B, teaching this lesson's concept, in case your student needs a bit more practice.
- Worksheet C, still teaching this lesson's concept, in case your student needs even more practice.
- Worksheet D, review work
- Worksheet E, more review work
- Worksheet F, still more review work, for the student who thrives on repetition or struggles with math and requires the extra practice.
- Worksheet G is often a test, or optional application and enrichment section. While it is considered "honors" material, we suggest you do this if you can tackle it without stressing your child!

Some parents prefer to watch the lessons themselves and then teach their students personally, while most prefer to watch alongside their students, pausing the video, rewinding, and clarifying as needed.



After watching the video lesson or your recreated lesson, your student will complete as many worksheets as you deem appropriate. You will want to decide as you start the year whether your student will be completing the optional “Application and Enrichment” section on each lesson (sometimes considered the honors portion). If these challenges overwhelm your student, you should skip them or offer generous assistance. Otherwise, embrace them for the opportunity they provide to help him learn more skills and train his brain to think logically.

It’s hard to overemphasize the importance of thoughtfully assigning math pages. Most students should complete worksheet A, D, and G, and that may be enough!

In our crew, we have some students who struggle with math, and for them it is best to complete most of the worksheets and just slow down the pace of the program. This is perfectly acceptable, but shouldn’t be the norm for every child since the only thing worse than being overwhelmed by rapid-fire challenging concepts is to be bored with too much repetition!

Scheduling

You have 30 lessons to complete, so we suggest planning on one lesson a week, including the DVD as well as the textbook/workbook portions and any relevant tests. However, as Mr. Demme points out, some lessons will take you longer than others to achieve mastery. If you find yourself stuck on a lesson, feel free to allow it to take you an extra week. Just don’t do that more than six times this year!

MÖBI KIDS

BASIC // COMPLETE // ELITE

Are you as tired of math drill as your children are? Then introduce your little ones to Möbi Kids, a fun, simple, and multicolored math game. Sturdy purple and green number tiles and blue double-sided operations tiles are joined by four “wild” tiles that can represent any number between 0 and 10.

Open your whale and sort the tiles by color. The blue operations tiles go within easy reach of both players. Each of you will use them as needed.

One child will use the green tiles while the other player uses purple tiles. Each child races to use all of his tiles to build number sentences crossword-style.

Primarily designed for two players, instructions are included for adapting Möbi Kids for three or more children.

Möbi Kids is an enjoyable tile game that will motivate your children to review addition and subtraction facts.

Perfect for on-the-go families, all you need to play is Möbi Kids and a flat surface.

Scheduling

Unlimited - we suggest breaking it out once a week this year.

Pro Tip

If your child isn't ready to compete (or you just can't even do one more game today!) this also makes a great solitaire project. Once he's mastered using one set of tiles, challenge him to make a giant “crossword” that uses all of the purple and green tiles at once as shown below.





PLUS-PLUS EXCURSION

36 WEEKS OF CRAZY-SMART IDEAS

If you've read the previous articles, you're likely sold on the idea of implementing both convergent and divergent learning with your Plus-Plus set. To get you started, we've included 36 convergent and divergent ideas to choose from throughout the school year.

The model with a number has a picture for your child to follow. The goal is to make as exact a match as possible before he starts tweaking it. (Of course, colors don't need to match at all - depending on your kit, you may not have the precise ones we used. Swap them as you wish!)

The second idea has no picture or directions at all, so he is free to interpret it any way he likes.

His third model of the week will be one of the many from the guidebooks included with your Plus-Plus kits.

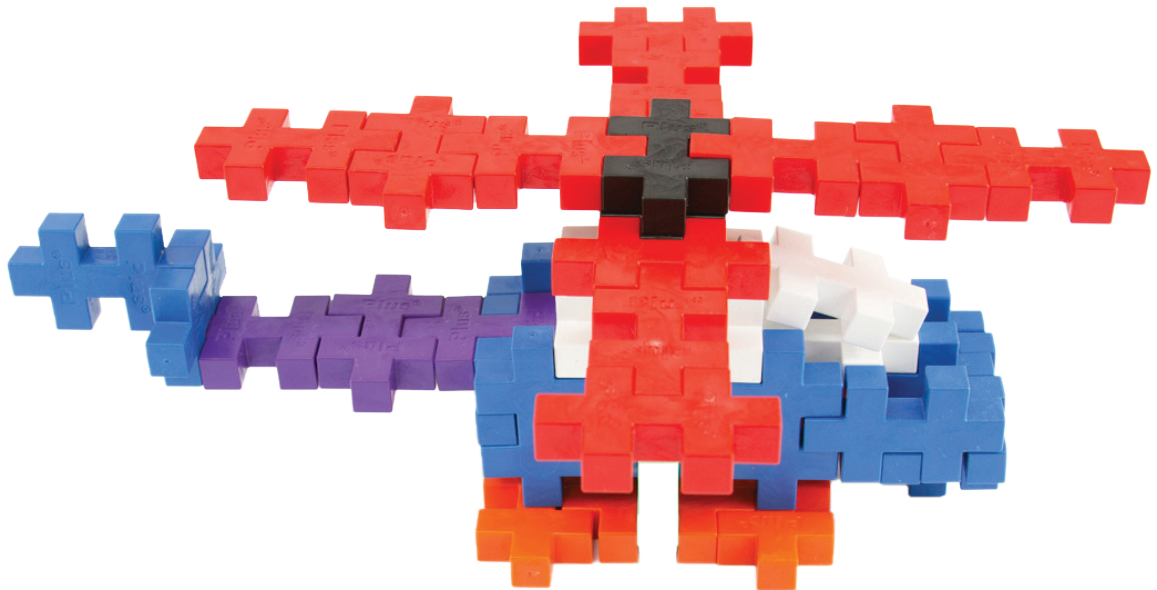
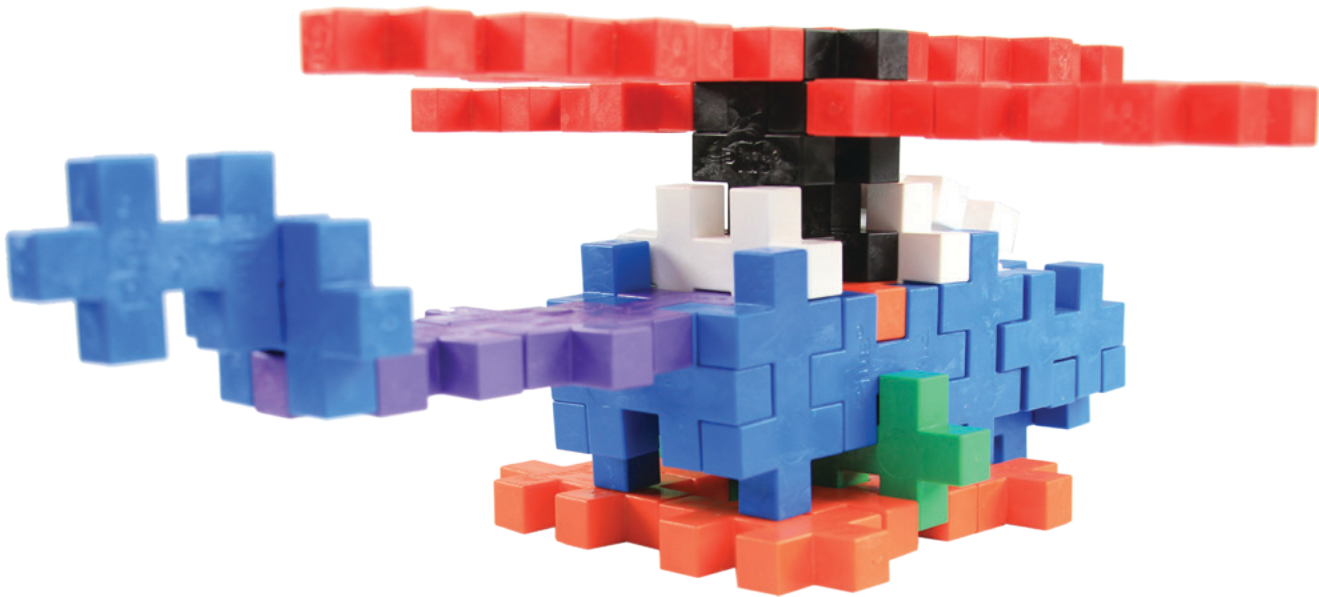
Some models he will complete in minutes, while others will take much longer. If this is hard for your student, consider setting a timer for 15 minutes and asking him to work at it for that long and then move on for the day.

With the following ideas as well as the those included in the Plus-Plus box, you'll have enough projects to last a typical school year, plus a few extra..

You should also feel free to jump around and do the models that interest your child most this week. We've included checkboxes for that very purpose, so you can easily keep track of which models have been completed.



#26. HELICOPTER



#27. GRANDPA'S COFFEE & CAP



52 WAYS TO PLAY WITH MAD MATTR

IDEAS TO JUMP START YOUR CREATIVITY



PHOTO: THE WILLIAMSON FAMILY

1. Spoons & Forks

Use an assortment of silverware when playing with Mad Mattr this week. Can you make smooth paths with a spoon and curious holes with the forks? Which would you use to draw grass next to your road?

2. Cookie Cutters

Roll your “cookie dough” out and use cookie cutters to make all sorts of “yummy cookies.” Don’t forget to sprinkle a little loose Mad Mattr on top of the finished product!

3. Construction

Grab your smallest construction toys and use your bulldozers to push the “dirt” into piles or the backhoe to scoop it into dump trucks. Don’t have any toys the right size? Spend your time making stacks of logs, piles of rocks, and other construction-themed resources. Our resident toddler loves playing with his trucks and has spent hours these past months digging, loading, and unloading.

4. Cubes & Bricks

Using the table, can you make cubes with Mad Mattr? This takes a little practice, but it is very rewarding once mastered! Using your new cube skills, make bricks and build them into a wall. Too hard? Make a long “brick” and let your child use a knife to chop it into reasonable proportions.

THE LIGHT READER

| THE CHALLENGE | THE BOOK YOU CHOSE | DATE COMPLETED |
|--|--------------------|----------------|
| 1.1 Around the Globe–Africa & Asia <i>East Africa</i> | | |
| 2.1 Around the Globe–Europe & Antarctica <i>Central or Eastern Europe</i> | | |
| 3.1 Around the Globe–The Americas & Oceania <i>South America</i> | | |
| 4.1 Famous Figures <i>Hammurabi, or Moses</i> | | |
| 5.1 Fiction <i>A classic</i> | | |
| 6.1 Language Arts <i>Poetry</i> | | |
| 7.1 Bible <i>Devotions or Bible Study</i> | | |
| 8.1 Relationships <i>Family</i> | | |
| 9.1 Life Skills and Experiences <i>Manners</i> | | |
| 10.1 Social Studies <i>Archaeology or Paleontology</i> | | |
| 11.1 History <i>Ancient civilizations</i> | | |
| 12.1 Animals <i>Dogs</i> | | |
| 13.1 Sciences <i>General science</i> | | |
| 14.1 STEM <i>Biography of a scientist</i> | | |
| 15.1 Health <i>Human anatomy</i> | | |
| 16.1 Nature Studies <i>Conservation or Wilderness</i> | | |
| 17.1 The Arts <i>Art</i> | | |
| 18.1 You Choose! <i>Look and Find book, or book with a great cover</i> | | |

So you love the idea of the reading challenge, but you'd like a boost to get you started? You've come to the right place!

Customize This!

You'll find a few ideas here for each challenge, but don't forget that you're not bound to our list. There are literally hundreds more options that may be even better for your family. Use these pages as starter ideas and not as your final list.

Will I See the Same Books Over and Over?

No, not on this list! However, this particular reading challenge is geared for first- through third-grade so you will see this exact list in all those grades.

Many books could easily fit into more than one category, but we only put each in one place on your list for your convenience. (Books that are part of a series are the one exception, as you may find an individual title in one spot and the whole series referenced elsewhere.) So if you're finding that you want to read more than one book from a particular challenge, the odds are good that skimming the list will give you another challenge to list it under.

For instance, *Tuki and Moka: A Tale of Two Tamarins* by Judy Young, listed under challenge 3 (a book from around the globe-The Americas & Oceania), would also fit really well under challenge 12 (a book about animals), challenge 16 (a book about nature studies), and perhaps even challenge 5 (a mystery). Shuffle things as you like!

3,448 BOOK SUGGESTIONS for first- through third-grade

A Variety of Reading Levels

As you probably guessed, these are a mix of books for you to read to your child, as well as books that he will read himself. Read-alouds meet your child's tremendous need for literacy, language, and stories, giving him a strong sense of why he wants to learn to read. Beginning readers build confidence and enthusiasm.

Notes about Our Book Ideas

If you've been reading to your child long (or if you've simply perused your local public library), you've probably noticed that families have very different standards for their reading materials. The books you'll find listed here are ones that members of our team have read, have added to their "I want to read this" list, or have had recommended to them.

Even among our team there is a wide range in what titles our families would find acceptable. Some of us find fantasy objectionable and would skip books that obscure a solid Christian worldview but will gladly read a scarier adventure story than other families would be comfortable with. Others of us consider those fantasy titles to be an interesting addition and worthy of much discussion.

In these younger grades, some of us skip evolutionary titles, others include them liberally and discuss them. It is the same with isolated language issues, characters that don't have the best attitudes, clothing choices, and more.

We've opted to include titles with abandon, knowing that you will be able to flip through them at the library (or in these COVID days, once your stack of holds has arrived) to determine if they are a good fit for your family.

This is not a "Timberdoodle would sell these books if we could" list. We can't vouch for each of the titles, and we certainly can't know which ones are a good fit for your

PHOTO: THE CONZONE FAMILY



particular family. We even include titles with things we don't like, knowing that what is a "burn the book" moment for one family is a discussion starter for others - and if ever there was a time for deep discussion around many topics, this is that time!

AROUND THE GLOBE— AFRICA & ASIA

CHALLENGE 1 ON EACH LOOP

Africa

Africa is Not a Country by Margy Burns Knight
Africa, Amazing Africa: Country by Country by Atinuke
Count Your Way Through Africa by Jim Haskins

Central Africa

Albert Schweitzer: Le Grand Docteur by Janet and Geoff Benge (Christian Heroes Then and Now)*
C.T. Studd: No Retreat by Janet and Geoff Benge (Christian Heroes Then and Now)*
David Livingstone: Africa's Trailblazer by Janet and Geoff Benge (Christian Heroes Then and Now)*
Elephants of Africa by Gail Gibbons
Escape from the Slave Traders: David Livingstone by Dave and Neta Jackson (Trailblazer Books)*
Rain School by James Rumford

East Africa

A Kid's Guide to Kenya by Jack L. Roberts
African Adventure by Deborah Lock (DK Readers)
The African Safari Discovery by Jeff Brown (Flat Stanley's Worldwide Adventures)
Assassins in the Cathedral: Festo Kivengere by Dave and Neta Jackson (Trailblazer Books)*
The Banana-Leaf Ball: How Play Can Change the World by Katie Smith Milway (CitizenKid)
The Best Beekeeper of Lalibela: A Tale from Africa by Cristina Kesller (CitizenKid)
Bringing the Rain to Kapiti Plain by Verna Aardema
Count Your Way Through Kenya by Jim Haskins and Kathleen Benson
The Elephant Keeper: Caring for Orphaned Elephants in Zambia by Margriet Ruurs (CitizenKid)
For You Are a Kenyan Child by Kelly Cunnane
The Great Migration by Deborah Lock (DK Readers)
Kenya ABCs by Sarah Heiman
The Marvelous Mud House by April Graney*

Mighty Mount Kilimanjaro by Geronimo Stilton
Mimi's Village and How Basic Health Care Transformed It by Katie Smith Milway (CitizenKid)
My Rows and Piles of Coins by Tololwa M. Mollel
The Mystery of the Lion's Tail by Harper Paris (Greetings from Somewhere)
Owen and Mzee: The True Story of a Remarkable Friendship by Isabella Hatkoff
Riley Mae and the Sole Fire Safari by Jill Osborne (The Good News Shoes)*
Thea Stilton and the Journey to the Lion's Den by Thea Stilton
Thea Stilton and the Madagascar Madness by Thea Stilton
Wangari's Trees of Peace: A True Story of Africa by Jeanette Winter
Where is the Serengeti? by Nico Medina (Who HQ)
Race the Wild: Savanna Showdown by Kristin Earhart
Under the Same Sun by Sharon Robinson

North Africa

Bill and Pete Go Down the Nile by Tomie dePaola
The Clue in the Papyrus Scroll by Gertrude Chandler Warner (The Boxcar Children)
Count Your Way Through Egypt by Jim Haskins
The Curse of the Cairo Cat by Dan Metcalf (A Lottie Lipton Adventure)
The Curse of the Cheese Pyramid by Geronimo Stilton
The Day of Ahmed's Secret by Florence Parry Heide and Judith Heide Gilliland
Egypt ABCs by Sarah Heiman
The Egyptian Enchantment by Dan Metcalf (A Lottie Lipton Adventure)
Let's Visit Cairo! by Lisa Manzione (The Adventures of Bella and Harry)
Lillian Thrasher: The Greatest Wonder in Egypt by Janet and Geoff Benge (Christian Heroes Then and Now)*
Living in... Egypt by Chloe Perkins (Ready-to-Read)
Mirror by Jeannie Baker

*These titles have a Christian/religious perspective

ANIMALS, CONT.

CHALLENGE 12 ON EACH LOOP

Cats

Amelia Bedelia and the Cat by Herman Parrish (I Can Read)
Anatole and the Cat by Eve Titus
A Skateboard Cat-astrophe by Franklin W. Dixon (Hardy Boys Clue Book)
Bandit's Surprise by Karen Rostoker-Gruber
Big Cats by Joyce Milton (Penguin Young Readers)
The Bravest Cat! The True Story of Scarlett by Laura Driscoll (Penguin Young Readers)
The Case of the Cat's Meow by Crosby Bonsall
The Catnapping Mystery by David A. Adler (Cam Jansen)
Cat Burglar Caper by Carolyn Keene (Nancy Drew and the Clue Crew)
The Cat's Meow by Herman Parish (Amelia Bedelia and Friends)
The Cat Who Ruled the Town by May Nakamura (Tails from History)
The Celebrity Cat Caper by Gertrude Chandler Warner (The Boxcar Children)
Cheetah Cubs by Ginjer L. Clarke (Penguin Young Readers)
Cheetahs by Laura Marsh (National Geographic Kids)
The Crabby Cat Caper by Beverly Lewis (Cul-de-Sac Kids)*
Ellie Tames the Tiger by Callie Barkley (The Critter Club)
The Fire Cat by Esther Averill (I Can Read)
Henry and Mudge and the Happy Cat by Cynthia Rylant (Ready-to-Read)
The Kitten Caper by Carolyn Keene (Nancy Drew Notebooks)
The Last Little Cat by Meindert DeJong
Lights, Camera... Cats! by Carolyn Keene (Nancy Drew and the Clue Crew)
The Lion's Tale by Laura Buller (DK Readers)
Lulu and the Cat in the Bag by Hilary McKay
The Mystery of the Missing Cat by Gertrude Chandler Warner (The Boxcar Children)
Princess Grace and Poppy by Jeana Young*
Scat, Cats! by Joan Holub (Penguin Young Readers)

That Bad, Bad Cat by Claire Masurel (Penguin Young Readers)
Tigers by Laura Marsh (National Geographic Kids)
Tiger Tales and Big Cat Stories by Deborah Chancellor (DK Readers)
Why Do Cats Meow? by Joan Holub
Young Cam Jansen and the Lions' Lunch Mystery by David A. Adler (Penguin Young Readers)
Young Cam Jansen and the Spotted Cat Mystery by David A. Adler (Penguin Young Readers)

Horses

A Horse Named Dragon by Gertrude Chandler Warner (The Boxcar Children)
Andi's Lonely Little Foal by Susan K. Marlow (Circle C Beginnings)*
Andi's Pony Trouble by Susan K. Marlow (Circle C Beginnings)*
Anna Sewell's Black Beauty by Cathy East (Penguin Young Readers)
The Berenstain Bears Ride Like the Wind by Stan and Jan Berenstain
Billy and Blaze series by C.W. Anderson
Black Beauty by Anna Sewell, adapted by Caryn Jenner (DK Classic Readers)
Black Beauty by Anna Sewell, adapted by Cathy East Dubowski (Stepping Stones)
Bramble and Maggie: Horse Meets Girl by Jessie Haas
Chang's Paper Pony by Eleanor Coerr (I Can Read)
The Clippity-Cloppity Carnival by Valerie Tripp (Wellie Wishers)
Cowgirl Kate and Cocoa by Erica Silverman (Green Light Readers)
Cowgirl Katie by Fran Manushkin (Green Light Readers)
Gallop! 100 Fun Facts About Horses by Kitson Jazynka (National Geographic Kids)
Garbage Juice for Breakfast by Patricia Reilly Giff (Polk Street Mysteries)

*These titles have a Christian/religious perspective