

Appendix 7: Reading with Short Chapter Books—Extra Copywork Passages

Extra Copywork Passages

We hope that you will encourage your children to practice writing each day. We understand, though, that there are some days when your children will feel... well, let's just say "uninspired." On those days, what should you do?

Should you just let them skip writing? Not if you want them to grow and excel as a writer. Mercilessly browbeat them into submission? Not if you want to keep your sanity! Instead, just assign one of the extra copywork passages below.

Your children will gain additional writing practice without the additional challenge of a regular assignment. You'll avoid a battle of the wills with a reluctant writer. Use the extra time you gain to discuss things with your children. Why are they feeling uninspired? Show them love and support and help them regroup in preparation to hit the ground running again tomorrow.

For your convenience, we have provided extra copywork passages for you to use over the length of this course.

The Chalk Box Kid

pg. 7

The house was small and it needed paint. It looked as if it had grown out of the sidewalk. There was no yard at all.

pg. 22

Gregory went in. He walked through spider webs and dust. He piled up some bricks and sat down on them.

pg. 44

When he was on the ladder, he could reach the top of the walls. Now he could have trees in his garden.

Clara and the Bookwagon

pg. 10

Sometimes she liked to make up her own stories. Some were about animals. Some were about families.

pg. 42

She waved and stopped. Clara stared at the wagon. It was filled with books.

Cora Frear

pg. 4

Cora took off her coat and her bonnet. She threw them on a chair. Then she gulped down her milk.

pg. 17

Papa stopped the horses. He looked all around him. He watched the way the wind was blowing.

pg. 40

Then there was the Miller baby. He did have the same fever that many other children had. Papa told his parents to wash him down with cool water.

The House on Walenska Street

pg. 3

The cousins in America! Leah loved to write to the cousins. And to all the aunts and uncles who would be sharing the letter.

pp. 22-23

Leah loved to go shopping for Mama. Especially if she could go without Esther and Rose.

pg. 44

She had a thin face and birdlike eyes. The rest of her was plump. Leah thought she looked like one of the butcher's chickens.

pg. 59

There were more footsteps overhead. This time closer, stopping directly over the secret door.

Jake Drake: Bully Buster

pg. 6

I looked at the stuff coming out of his nose. Then I looked at my cookies. And then I turned my head to look for Miss Lulu.

pg. 22

I felt my ears turning red. My lips were clamped together. I turned my head away from him and looked out the window.

pg. 37

I tried to be cool, but I couldn't. I couldn't laugh. Not about that. I got angry.

pg. 47

The next week was not fun.

Every chance he got, Link did something mean.

Keep the Lights Burning, Abbie

pg. 10

Mama is too sick to do it. Your sisters are too little. You must keep the lights burning, Abbie.

The Last Little Cat

pg. 6

But there was no place for the last little cat for milk from the mother. The six kittens took all the places for milk.

pg. 19

And the sky was big, and the field was big, and the fun was big, and everywhere was sunshine. The world was as warm as a bowl of milk.

pg. 37

The puppy came on alone into the yard. The puppy came to the tree. The little cat hung with its head down and its little tail down over the branch.

pg. 53

It did not care about little cats. It cared only about eating red meat, and doing battle with big fighting cats.

The Littles

pg. 7

The Littles kept out of sight. They lived in tiny rooms in the walls of the house.

pg. 15

One of the screws was missing. The empty hole was large enough for a Little to look and listen through.

pg. 34

Mice are quick animals. They're not easy to see. And they usually do most of their work when people are not around.

pg. 52

"He's a Little all right," said Uncle Pete. "He has that Little bravery."

The Long Way to a New Land

pg. 57

A doctor looked into their eyes and down their throats. He thumped on their chests. The lines moved slowly.

The Long Way Westward

pp. 26-27

A rooster crowed. Jonas woke up and looked around. The sun was up over a field of corn.

The Paint Brush Kid

pg. 7

He led them into the backyard. And there, in a big chair under an orange tree, sat Richard.

pg. 27

He had come to Gregory's school and talked about gardens. He had brought plants and seeds for the boys and girls.

pg. 49

Uncle Pancho started to speak. He stopped. Suddenly he looked very old and very tired.

Prairie School

pg. 22

It is the only lily in this area. It grows from a bulb. The Indians boil the bulb and eat it for food.

A Question of Yams

pg. 2

From the rock, he could see the path and past it to his family's garden. The mounds of brown earth in the garden were ready for planting.

pg. 21

He listened to the noisy birds. He swatted at the flies that buzzed around his head.

pg. 48

There are many more words to learn. Joyce has boxes and boxes of words. But keep on, my son, and you will be glad.

Riding the Pony Express

pg. 10

The wind carried it away. Dick was glad to see it go. He had not wanted to wear it in the first place.

pg. 31

Out in the road there were two horses. One looked tired and its legs were muddy.

pg. 40

Dick didn't answer. He could see no good times ahead as long as he stayed here.

pg. 49

Someone looked up over the rocks ahead. It was an Indian boy.

pg. 72

"I know what's the matter. That fish you ate for dinner was not good." Mrs. Kelly ran to the bedroom.

pp. 85-86

There was a creek ahead. It was nearly as wide as a river. Dick looked up and down for a bridge.

The Secret Valley

pg. 22

Sometimes the air was full of bugs. They were big, brown bugs. They flew into the wagon. The cat patted them with his paws.

pg. 39

Frank took a pan. His father took a pick and shovel. Men were digging by the river.

pg. 64

Frank went with them every day. He watched them dig the ditch. He helped them build the dam of mud, sticks and stones.

pg. 81

They moved the tent. They made new beds of pine branches.

"This is better," said Mrs. Davis.

Third-Grade Detectives #1

pg. 2

Todd shrugged. Noelle looked at Mr. Merlin again. She liked spy shows on television.

pg. 8

Great! Noelle thought. If she had the rules, she was sure she could solve the secret code.

pg. 32

Amber Lee started reading. Noelle started thinking. She thought about everything that Mr. Merlin had told them.

pg. 47

They ran down the hall. They ran into the classroom. The rest of the class had already started their math problems.

Third-Grade Detectives #2

pg. 5

Todd looked up. His mother was standing at his door. Her mouth was moving up and down. Todd knew she was talking.

pg. 17

His grandmother put their milk in plastic cups. She put their cookies in a plastic bag. Then Todd and Noelle headed out the back door to the tree house.

pg. 36

For the rest of the day, they did schoolwork. Mr. Merlin always made it interesting, but the day still seemed to drag by.

pg. 45

She put the slide under the lens of the microscope. She looked into the eyepiece.

Third-Grade Detectives #4

pg. 2

"There's a thief in town. He broke into our house." Noelle said. "I talked to the police about it this morning."

pg. 16

Todd hoped he could solve it right away. He wanted to catch the thief and get his baseball cards back.

pg. 38

Something touched the back of his neck. He screamed. He dropped the flashlight.

pg. 54

He had to tell her they weren't going to Mr. Goober's anyway. He took the sweater and slipped out the back door.

Third-Grade Detectives #10

pg. 2

Their teacher, Mr. Merlin, used to be a spy. He gave them secret code clues to help them with their cases.

pg. 20

They were each given a boxed lunch.

Todd and Noelle sat down next to Dr. Kirk. Dr. Kirk told the class how she became a museum director.

pg. 37

No one else had solved the secret code clue either.

"We really do need a hint, Mr. Merlin," Amber Lee said.

Everyone agreed.

pg. 52

Mr. Merlin walked up to Todd and Noelle. He put a piece of paper on the table in front of them.

Tippy Lemmey

pg. 10

His blue pants were dirty. His best shoes were scuffed. He had kicked up a lot of dust, running from Tippy Lemmey.

pg. 45

We hurried around to the front door. It had a big padlock on it. I felt the first raindrop.

Tornado

pg. 2

My mother was standing outside the door. She was worried about my daddy.

pg. 16

I remember it to this day. It was the three of hearts. The dog was standing there with the three of hearts in his mouth!

Viking Adventure

pg. 32

Servants brought food and drink for the old man. They made him a good bed of straw.

In the morning he called for his books.

pg. 43

Sea gulls were crying. The sun was bright on the waves.
For half the morning he sat there, thinking.

pg. 64

The sailors worked until morning. By that time, most of
the storm had passed. The ship was saved.

pg. 73

They came to the shore. The small boat was there where
they had left it. And now the ship's other boat was on the
sand beside it.

pg. 89

The room was dark and cold. He found Gorm's sleeping
bag and pulled it over him. After a while he went to sleep.

pg. 101

The ship has brought us this far. It will take us the rest of
the way. Besides, the sea is calm. ■