

Decodables!

Need some inspiration and resources when it comes to using decodables rather than leveled readers this year? Start by reading the Top 5 Reasons you should be using decodables with your emergent or transitioning readers. Also see below to find out why even some older students could benefit from controlled texts! Then, use the provided links to find the decodables that will be the best fit for your students!

[The Top 5 Reasons You Should Use Decodable Text With Your Students](#)

P.S.

Remember that decodables are only decodable if that phonetic pattern has been explicitly taught. A book or passage may be decodable for one student and not accessible for another in the same class. Follow a scope and sequence and plan your decodables around your explicit, direct instruction.

This is a collaboration from several literacy teachers. Be a critical consumer and keep your students' ability and needs in mind when choosing decodables.

FEEL FREE TO SHARE!

Decodable Resources:

Start with this current, comprehensive list of decodables compiled by *The Reading League*. Most of these require purchasing, but some have free samples.

<https://www.thereadingleague.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/FINAL-Decodables-Update-May-2020.pdf>

This website is a fabulous decodable books search engine with links to decodables of all sorts (some free, some paid). You can search by price, publisher, or number of words.

[Elemeno Decodable Search](#)

Free Decodable Resources:

EMERGENT AND PRIMARY READERS:

[West Virginia Phonics](#)

Each lesson includes three skill-based passages related to the phonetic pattern.

[Starfall Learn to Read Books](#)

Starfall Academy offers a series of 15 free online phonics books. The set linked above is interactive and not downloadable, but does have the added feature that students can click to hear the words read aloud. Use this link to access [Cut-Up-And-Take-Home](#) versions of the same books.

[SPELD-SA Phonics Books](#)

Set 1-7 include one way to spell the 42 main sounds in English. You can download a PDF or Power Point version for free or purchase paperback books in sets of 4.

[FlyLeaf](#)

Flyleaf is offering all their decodables online versions free for the 2021-2022 school year. There is a student and teacher portal

[Beyond Decodables](#)

These new, free books are part of the 1st grade curriculum for Boston school district. The non-decodable words are provided at the beginning of each book. They follow this [scope and sequence](#)

[Progressive Phonics Beginner Books](#)

This series of phonics books is a read-together (aka "shared reader") series available as PDFs. You'll read most of the text, while your child will read the larger words that fit the target phonemes they're learning. While they contain color, they have a great deal of white space and would be printable.

[Really Great Reading](#)

Countdown Decodable Passages for Emergent readers. Lots of other great resources as well.

[Free Phonetic Readers](#)

A series of black-and-white printable, colorable, and highly decodable readers!

[Fun Phonics Free Book Series](#)

A great series of black-and-white printable phonics books and worksheets.

[Free Word Family Books](#)

This Reading Mama has quite a few free decodable readers. You'll have to do a bit of digging and scrolling to find all the free printable gems.

[Half Pint Books](#)

These are really adorable decodable books for early emergent readers.

TRANSITIONAL READERS:

[FlyLeaf](#)

Flyleaf is offering all their decodables online versions free for the 2021-2022 school year. There is a student and teacher portal. Look for books that reinforce the phonetic concepts you are teaching.

[Really Great Reading](#)

Blast Decodable Passages for Transitional readers. Other great resources as well!

[Core Knowledge](#)

These readers are part of the Skills Strand of the LA program of the CK Curriculum. They are available for free; you must look for the reader in each grade/unit. Printed copies are available for purchase in the US

OLDER READERS:

Some Older Readers Still Need authentic, high interest, controlled texts!

Choose controlled texts that align with the phonics skills currently being taught. These stories and passages provide students with longer, connected-text opportunities to apply the skills they are learning. In addition to the decodable, or readable words, the passages include high-frequency words. These passages can be used to bridge phonetic skills with authentic reading. They provide opportunities for practice, and, ideally, to build fluency. Students will also gain confidence as readers. Reading text controlled for the specific skills students have already learned allows them to read with success, leading to confidence and the willingness to tackle more difficult text in the future.

[Moon Dogs At Home Series](#)

Designed for older students, the Moon Dog books (not free) can be used to either teach or reinforce new and already learned decoding skills. All seven progressive phonics series feature action-packed stories divided into books with short word counts, with the conclusion of the story in each set's final book. The Moon Dogs at home has the same characters doing everyday tasks. This set is available for no cost.

[Really Great Reading](#)

HD Decodable Passages for Transitional readers