SCIENCE READERS. BOOK I

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Science Readers. Book I by Vincent T. Murché

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VINCENT T. MURCHÉ

SCIENCE READERS. BOOK I



SCIENCE READERS

BY

VINCENT T. MURCHÉ

AUTHOR OF 'OBJECT LESSONS IN ELEMENTARY SCIENCE,' 'OBJECT LESSONS
IN DOMESTIC ECONOMY,' 'OBJECT LESSONS FOR INFANTS'

'DOMESTIC SCIENCE READERS'

BOOK I

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PREFACE

This series of Reading Books forms the natural complement of the author's Object Lessons in Elementary Science, published last year for the use of teachers. The commendation which these lessons have received encourages the author to hope that the Reading Books will be found useful, not only in those schools in which Elementary Science is taken as a class subject, but also for the purposes of an ordinary reader. Although the subjects follow the general course of the Teachers' Oral Lessons, the order has been considerably altered, with the view of avoiding monotony in the character of the successive lessons, and of maintaining as far as possible a general level of attractiveness throughout each book.

To play at keeping school is one of the commonest of children's games. In the first lesson of the First Reader we are introduced to three children, who amuse themselves in this way over the favourite lesson of the day. They deal with each subject as it comes, in their own simple language, missing no point of importance, and quoting the words and advice of their teacher; and it is hoped that the young readers who follow them through these lessons will catch something of the enthusiasm and earnestness which characterise them as they advance step by step from very small beginnings to a real understanding of the elementary facts of natural science.

Short summaries of the lessons are given at the end of each book, and the whole series is fully illustrated, in order to show everything that has a direct bearing on the matter before the class, and to enable children to recall the teaching and experiments of the Object Lessons themselves.

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BOOK I

Lesson I

WATER

FRED and his cousin Willie were two smart boys in the same class at school. They were only little boys, but they were fond of their school and their lessons.

They used to play at school in the evening with Fred's little sister Norah.

Their teacher was giving the class jolly lessons on some of the common things around them. These were not at all like the other lessons of the day. Teacher gave them to the class as a treat. The boys soon began to look forward to them, as the best of all their lessons.

Norah, too, liked to hear all about them from the boys. It was great fun to