

**NATURE AND LIFE  
SERIES; THE EASY ROAD  
TO READING: PRIMER**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649460274

Nature and Life Series; The Easy Road to Reading: Primer by Carrie J. Smith & Gertrude Spaller & Mary Loise Spoor

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**CARRIE J. SMITH & GERTRUDE SPALLER & MARY LOISE SPOOR**

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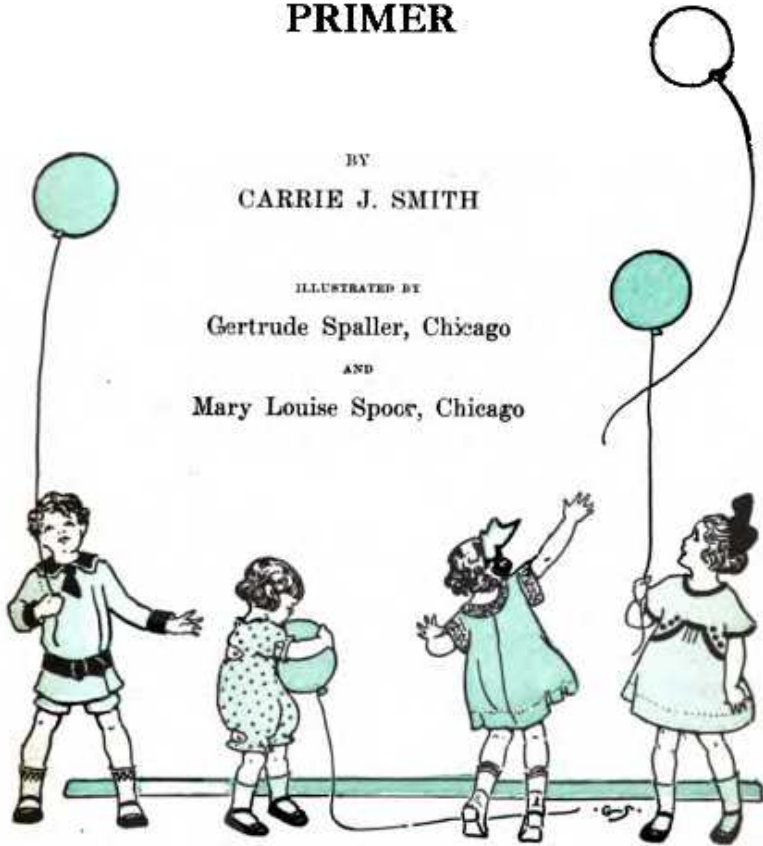


Nature and Life Series

THE EASY ROAD TO READING  
PRIMER

BY  
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LYONS & CARNAHAN

CHICAGO

NEW YORK

EducT 759.13.792  
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BAKER & BROS. CO. PRINTERS  
501 N. 4TH ST.  
MINN. & CO.  
DEC 5 1940

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## FOREWORD

The subject matter in a beginning text book in reading should touch the child personally and be in keeping with his natural activities if it is to be of value in teaching him to read. It should appear for him in the form of action, rhythm, stories, plays, and games if the symbols of reading are to convey meaning. This Primer has been compiled with the foregoing in mind, the purpose being to offer an easy and natural course in reading for beginners. The vocabulary and subject matter have accordingly been chosen with special reference to the natural activities of children.

Children are actors by nature and they therefore perform with pleasure the actions which words suggest. That which a child does involving self-activity makes a deep impression; thus the true meaning of words can be easily impressed upon him. It is, therefore, important that there shall be included in the early lessons a good list of action words which shall form the basis of interesting and thought-inspiring reading lessons and which can be easily demonstrated in class-room practice.

The first nine lessons of *The Easy Road to Reading Primer* consist of simple reading matter compiled from a desirable list of action words. All these early lessons can be dramatized and the meaning of the words can thus be easily taught by having the children perform the actions suggested by them.

Lessons 16-32 consist of interesting reading in which the new words are introduced in simple rhymes made up in part from the action words previously learned. These rhymes serve to fix the meaning of the words and sentences in the lessons and make the reading matter more interesting.

Lessons 32-38 consist of short rhymes from that classic of childhood literature, Mother Goose. The lessons preserve the integrity of the rhymes, yet introduce a sufficient number of other sentences to emphasize the new words and fix by repetition those already presented.

Lessons 38-68 are on nature. This section will be read in the fall of the year when the outside world is full of beauty and attractiveness.

The remaining lessons are based on the following stories:

Jack and Jill,  
The House That Jack Built,  
The Boy and His Goat,  
Chicken Little and Henny Penny.

These particular stories have been selected because they have the characteristics that endear them to children,—action, repetition, animal or child life.

*The Easy Road to Reading Primer* is well graded, not having more than three new words introduced in any lesson up to page 30, and not more than four new words in any lesson in the book. It has a vocabulary of about 200 words and each word is used from fifteen to twenty times. There are about 5,000 words of reading matter containing that material which is considered most interesting to children because it is in accordance with their natural development, interests, and early activities.

Acknowledgment is made to Miss Ella D. Howe, primary teacher Columbus, Ohio, for valuable assistance in the preparation of this book and of the Teachers' Manual.



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Come.

Come and go.

Go and come.