

**THE CULTURE READERS:
EMBODYING THE NATURAL
METHOD IN
READING. BOOK ONE - PRIMER.
ETHICAL THEME - MOTHER LOVE**

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The Culture Readers: Embodying the Natural Method in Reading, Book One - Primer. Ethical Theme - Mother Love by Ellen E. Kenyon-Warner & Jenny B. Merrill

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EMBODYING

THE NATURAL METHOD IN READING

BY

ELLEN E. KENYON-WARNER, Ph. D.

BOOK ONE—PRIMER

EDITED BY

JENNY B. MERRILL, Ph. D.

ETHICAL THEME—MOTHER LOVE

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INTRODUCTION.

This Course in Reading must be taught by the Natural Method.

The Natural Method in Reading proceeds from the Whole to its Parts, from the Concrete to the Abstract and from the Known to the Unknown.

Proceeding from the Whole to its Parts, it:

1. Presents an entire composition, chosen from familiar child literature.
2. Compares this with other such forms, showing resemblances, identities and differences, and gathering in this way an initial vocabulary of written words.
3. Continues this broad comparison by introducing the printed forms of the compositions studied, thus reviewing, deepening and extending the impressions received during first study.
4. Groups some of the words of the vocabulary thus fixed, according to resemblances in initial sound and form, studying first the sounds that blend.
5. Reviews and fixes the knowledge thus gained by immediately applying the word parts discovered, in the construction of new words, thus extending the vocabulary in the easiest possible manner.
6. Continues the resolution of words into their parts by progressive analysis, until the elemental material of word structure is discovered. After sufficiently generous treatment, this material is gathered together, named the Alphabet, and memorized in a song.

Proceeding from the Concrete to the Abstract, it:

1. Presents subjects of intrinsic thought already familiar to the child, clothed in their written forms.
2. Compares such written forms for their general correspondence to the uttered thought.
3. Examines these forms for the closer correspondence of word to idea and of word part to sound.
4. Teaches through copious practice in word analysis and construction the laws of word structure, the highest abstraction reached in the Primer being the values of the simple vowels, and the Alphabet as a summary of word material.

Proceeding from the Known to the Unknown:

1. It bases the work of the first step upon the nursery lore and other familiar ideas possessed by the child on entering school.
2. The Known upon which the work of subsequent steps rests is the same, plus the gains of cumulative experience.

The Method is inductive, depending first upon the collation of data from language studied in the mass.

In order that the work of the first step may prepare the pupil for the work of the second step, it must be conducted according to the directions given in the Manual.



Morning.

After Kautsch.

MOTHER LOVE



FIRST STEP—ACCUMULATION.

1



Rock-a-by, baby,
On the tree-top!
When the wind blows,
The cradle will rock.

The books are not to be given to the children until the work of the First Step has been completed in script upon the blackboard. See Manual.



When the bough breaks,
The cradle will fall,
And down will come baby,
Cradle and all.





Old Mother Hubbard,
She went to the cupboard,
To get her poor dog a bone.
When she got there,
The cupboard was bare,
And so the poor dog had none.