

Preparatory 4.

QUEENSLAND SCHOOL READER



PREPARATORY 4.



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PREFACE.

The series of four Preparatory Readers is designed to meet the needs of Grades 1 and 2. Each book follows its predecessor naturally, and throughout the series, lessons will be found to have been carefully graded. Each of the books is illustrated in colour with a view to making it attractive to young children, and every means that matter, grading, and illustration can afford has been employed to foster in children a liking for books as books, and to assist in developing interest in and a taste for reading.

The work of compiling, printing, and illustrating has all been done within the State of Queensland.



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WHO?

1.

Who was the boy Who took his horn

And went to mind the sheep? As he sat down by a big hay-stack,

THE THE

He soon fell fast asleep.

Who was the girl Who took her bowl

And sat on a tuffet one day?

When a spider came, she felt afraid

And so she ran away.

3.

Who were the two Who climbed a hill To fill their pail at the well?

When they both fell down, one broke

his crown:

The tale was sad to tell.

THE SAD TOOTH.

1. It was a cold windy day.

Fred was glad to get home and sit in a cosy room.

- 2. Mother let him turn on the wire-less.
- 3. Fred heard a sweet tune and then a wee voice calling to him.
 - 4. It said, "Fred, can you hear me?"
 "Yes," said Fred, "but I cannot see you."
- 5. "No," said the voice, "I am a tiny elf, playing in your radio-set.

I often call to you but you do not hear me. You were very still just now, that is why you



6. "Can you hear some-one crying?" asked Fred.
"Yes," said the elf. "It is that little front tooth
of yours. It has cried all day."

7. "Why?" asked Fred.

"You did not brush it and make it shine," said the elf.

8. Fred felt un-happy.

"Oh, dear!" he said, "I did forget to use my brush.

- 9. Poor little tooth! I shall make you shine at once, and all the others as well."
- 10. Fred never forgets to brush his teeth now, both night and morning.

They shine when he smiles.

Do yours?





LITTLE TOBY.

1. Toby was a sad little doggie.

He had run away from his home and could not find his way back.

He had no home and no one to be kind to him.

2. One day, in the street, he met an old dog, named Spot.

Spot had no home, so he and Toby became very good friends.

- 3. They shared any food they found. Some days it was hard to find food.
- 4. Toby saw Spot digging a hole one day. "What are you doing, Spot?" he asked.

5. "I am going to hide this nice bone," said Spot.

"Why?" asked Toby.

- 6. "Well," said Spot, "we have had plenty of food to-day, but later on, if we are hungry and cannot find food, we can come back and dig up this bone. It will still be good to eat."
- 7. Toby sat with his head on one side and looked on, while Spot hid the bone.
 - 8. "How wise you are, Spot!" said Toby.
 "I shall not forget to do that, whenever I have
 too much food for one day."





1. I am a frog. I can live in the water, as well as on the land.

2. My mother laid eggs in the pond.

They floated on the top of the water and looked like tiny black balls joined together with jelly.

3. I was one of the little black balls.



4. When I was hatched from the egg, I wriggled out of the jelly into the water.



- 5. I became a tadpole, with a big black head and a long black tail.
- 6. I swam in the water wriggling my tail from side to side, looking for food.
- 7. Soon my legs began to grow—first the back ones, then the front ones.
- 8. As my legs became stronger and longer, my tail became shorter, till, at last, I had no tail at all.
- 9. Then I felt that I did not want to live in the water all my life.
- 10. I found that I could hop out of the water on to the land and here I am in this great big world.



THE JACKASS.

I'd like to be a tall gum tree With a gay old Jack to live with me. Then, when-ever I felt sad, His happy laugh would make me glad.

A CHILD'S "THANK YOU."

Child: "Thank you, Mother, for the bread I eat." Mother: "We must thank the man who brings it." Child: "Thank you, carter, for bringing the bread." Carter: "We must thank the man who bakes it." Child: "Thank you, baker, for baking the bread." Baker: "We must thank the man who makes the flour."

Child: "Thank you, miller, for grinding the flour." Miller: "We must thank the man who grows the wheat."



Child: "Thank you, farmer, for growing the wheat."

Farmer: "We must thank the One who sends the
rain to grow the wheat, and gives the sun
to ripen it."

Child: "Thank you, God, for sending the rain, and giving the sun to ripen the wheat, that makes the bread I eat."

> "Thank you for the world so sweet, Thank you for the food we eat, Thank you for the birds that sing, Thank you, God, for every-thing."



THE WIND AND THE LEAVES.

- 1. One day the wind wanted to play, so it looked about for play-mates.
- 2. At last, it saw some pretty leaves, dressed in yellow, brown and red.
- 3. They said, "We should like a game, Wind. What shall we play?"
- 4. "Let us start a chase," said the wind. "Away you go."
- 5. So off they went, the leaves in front and the wind behind.
- What a merry time they had! Some leaves were flying high, others were flying low.
- 7. The wind, behind, was calling, "Woo-oo, woo-oo", now softly and now as loudly as he could.

- 8. The leaves kept going, as long as the wind blew them.
- 9. At last the wind grew tired and stopped to rest.

The chase was over.

- 10. All the leaves fell gently to the ground.
- 11. They looked so tired and sleepy, that the wind turned gently away and left them to have a long, long rest, just where they lay.



A FAIRY CALL.

1.

"A silver bat and a golden ball!"
A little fairy made this call.
No one heard her I'm sure, but me,
As I sat under a wattle tree.

2.

"A silver bat and a golden ball!"
Again she made her fairy call.
And sitting in the wattle tree
She smiled and waved a branch at me.

3.

I know it was no dream you see, For June-time brings the wattle tree, Bearing pretty gifts for all Who hear the wattle fairy's call.





THE RUN-AWAY PENNY.

1. Tom was so pleased when his mother gave him a new money-box.

"I shall save all my pennies in it," he said.

- 2. Daddy gave him a penny and he popped it in.
- 3. Every time Tom lifted his money-box, the penny rattled.
- 4. One day his grand-ma gave him three pennies. The penny in the box was so happy.

"Now I shall have some mates with me," it thought.

- 5. But Tom forgot all about his money-box. He ran off to a shop to buy a new red top.
- 6. Later, when Uncle Jack gave him a penny, he spent that too.

The money-box felt sad and lonely.

7. Some time after, a fairy came by.

She peeped into the box and saw the penny. She spoke to it.

- 8. It told her that Tom had spent all the other pennies that had been given to him and that it was very lonely.
- 9. "I shall help you to get out of this box," she said. This, she did.
- 10. Then she took the penny to the box of a little boy who saved his money.
- 11. At last it was happy, for in this box were many other coins.
- 12. The next time Tom lifted his money-box, no penny rattled in it.

He does not know to this day, that a fairy helped the lonely penny to run away.



OUR HELPERS.

1

Who brings us flour, rice and cheese And honey from the worker bees?



2

Who brings the plums which are so sweet, The beans and peas, so good to eat?

3.

Who brings the milk which we must drink, To make us strong and quick to think?

4.

Who helps us all our teeth to keep And stops the ache, which makes us weep?

5.

Who comes to us when we are ill, To make us well, with all his skill?



6.

Who cares for us at home each day And loves us well in every way?



HOW STARS WERE MADE.

- 1. One day the fairy queen, who lived beyond the sky, left her fairies to go down to earth.
- She went to visit a sick child. While she was away the fairies danced and played.
- 3. When night drew near and she had not come back, they began to worry.
- 4. One little fairy made a tiny hole in the sky-floor, to peep down to earth.

She hoped to see the queen.

Soon, many other fairies did the same.

5. They did not know that the lights of fairy-land would shine through these holes.

6. When the queen was on her way back, she saw the holes in the sky-floor.

She found all the fairies peeping through them.

- 7. "Oh Queen," they said, "you were such a long time away, we feared you were lost."
- 8. The queen smiled and said, "Those holes make the dark sky look so pretty; I shall leave them just as they are."

And so she did.

9. We call them stars, but fairies know that they are the lights of Fairy-land.



THE LOVE-BIRDS.

1

The dear little love-birds Have a secret, just for two. They whisper to each other All the glad day through.

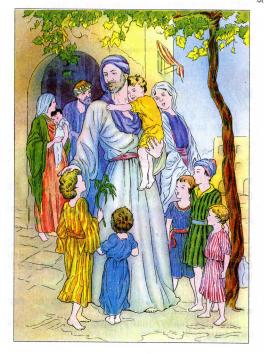
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They press their heads together In a happy kind of way. If I could be a love-bird, I'd know just what they say.



OUR BEST FRIEND.

- 1. When Jesus lived on earth, He went about doing good.
 - 2. He was good to every-one.
- 3. He helped those who were sick, those who were lame, those who could not see, those who could not speak, those who could not hear, even those who were well and strong.
- 4. Every-one was happy to be near Him and they crowded close to Him.
- 5. One day, when He was with the crowds, some mothers came with their children.
- 6. They wished that their children might see His kind face and be blessed by Him.
- 7. Some of the friends of Jesus said, "Take the children away. Do not bother the Master. He has no time for them now."
- 8. But Jesus said, "Suffer the little children to come unto Me and forbid them not."
- 9. He took them up in His arms and blessed them.
- 10. What a happy day it was for the mothers and the children!





1. I am a busy little bee.

I live in a hive with many other bees.

2. There are three kinds of bees in the hive—the queen, the workers and the drones.

3. I am a worker and I gather nectar, as I fly from flower to flower all the day long.

As I carry this nectar in my body, it is turned into honey.

4. Some honey is stored in wax cells to be used when it is needed. Some is mixed with pollen from the flowers. This is called bee-bread and it is used to feed the baby bees.

5. Did you know that I came from an egg which the queen laid?

She lays many, many eggs, each one in its own little cell

- 6. When I was hatched, I was a little white grub and I found some jelly food in my cell.
- 7. I lived on it for three days. Then I was fed with the bee-bread.
- $8.\ \mathrm{I}$ grew and grew and, at last, I filled the cell.
- 9. Then I made a little cocoon for myself and had a long sleep in it.
- 10. When I woke up, I found that I was no longer a grub, but a perfect bee.
- 11. Watch me as I work among the flowers, but do not catch me for I shall sting.





- 1. Jack had many toys. His father made him a large toy-box and he kept his toys in it.
- 2. One night, Jack went to his toy-box and took out his train, his set of tools and his motor car.
 - 3. He played with them till bed-time.

Then he ran off to bed leaving them on the floor.

He soon went to sleep.

- 4. "When is Jack coming to put us to bed?" asked the train. "We cannot rest here."
- 5. They grew tired of waiting for him to come, so the train began to puff.

"Puff-puff! Puff-puff!" it kept on saying.

6. "Toot-toot!" called the horn of the car.

- 7. What a noise the set of tools made! "Tap, tap! Bang, bang!" went the hammer.
- 8. Little Jack sat up in his bed. "What is that?" he said.
- 9. He thought he heard his train puffing and then he knew that he had not put his toys away.
- 10. He jumped out of bed and packed them safely in the toy-box.
- 11. When Jack went back to bed, the room was so quiet, that even the toys must have fallen asleep.



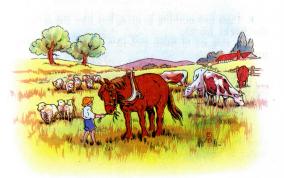
SUN-SET.

I love to watch the golden sun Setting, when the day is done. Who paints the sky those lovely shades We see there, just as day-light fades?



ANIMAL HELPERS.

- 1. Animals are our helpers.
- 2. The horse, the cow, the sheep, the cat and the dog are some of our animal friends.
- 3. Horses work for us. They carry our loads and give us rides which we enjoy.
- 4. Cows give us milk which is so good to drink. From the milk we get cream, butter and cheese.





- 5. Sheep give us wool from which are made warm coats, and socks, and caps, and rugs.
- 6. Puss has nothing to give, but like the horse, she works for us.

She rids us of mice and rats which are such pests.

- 7. We must not forget our good kind friend, the dog. He keeps watch, so that no harm comes to us.
- 8. These are our animal friends. We must be kind to them, feed them and see that they have water to drink.

A PET.

1.

I don't know which I'd rather have
For a cuddly little pet.
A dear wee shy koala
Or a possum I could get.

2.
But they would want to sleep by day And stay up all the night;

So I think I'll choose a puppy, And make him do what's right.





1. Joan and Ron went for a run along the beach.

They found a rosy shell.

- 2. "Mother says, that a shell can tell you tales of the sea, if you put it to your ear," said Joan.
- 3. "Oh, do let us sit on the sand and hear the story that this one tells," said Ron.
- 4. "I can hear the waves rolling in," said Joan, with the shell to her ear.
 - 5. This is the story Joan said the shell told her.
- 6. "Once I lived at the bottom of the sea. I was the home of a tiny fish.

- 7. One day, as I moved along in the water, I bumped into a great big fish.
- 8. My little fish fell out of its home and I was left, just an empty shell.
- 9. Then I was washed up on the sand where you have just found me.
- 10. I do not like being left on the sand, for the waves will toss me over the rocks and smash me."
- 11. When Joan told this to Ron, he said, "Oh, we must not let that happen to the pretty shell."
- 12. "No, indeed," said Joan, "we shall take it home with us.





NANCY'S DREAM.

- 1. When Nancy's mother had tucked her in bed and kissed her "Good-night," she soon fell asleep.
 - 2. She had such a happy dream about fairies.
- 3. She dreamt she was in a cool and shady dell, where there were many trees and lovely flowers.

Glow-worms lit up the dell, like tiny stars.

- 4. She saw dear little fairies peeping from the flowers. Soon they came out, and taking hold of hands, they made a fairy ring on the soft green grass.
- 5. They danced round the fairy queen, singing softly as they did so.
 - 6. Then they had a feast.

They used tiny mush-rooms for stools and larger ones for tables.

- 7. Their cups were gum-nuts, and their plates were flower-petals.
- 8. They sipped honey and had fruit from the trees.
- 9. Nancy liked to watch their pretty wings as they flew about, playing hide-and-seek.
- 10. At last it was time to end their play, for fairies must hide away before the peep of day.
- 11. Nancy watched them bowing to their queen as they said, "Good-night."
- 12. As the last fairy was about to leave, Nancy did not like being left by her-self in the dell, so she called out, "Please may I go with you?"
- 13. As she said this, she woke up and found that she was in her own bed and that it was all just a lovely dream.





Nell was a little girl who was very poor.
 She had been ill for a long time.
 She lived next door to Grace and Colin.
 All were glad when she was better just before Christmas.

- 2. "Let us have a Christmas-tree party for Nell, please, Mother," said Grace and Colin.
- 3. "I think that is a happy thought," said Mother.
- 4. Grace and Colin cut out and painted Christmas bells and sent one to each of their friends.

5. On the back was written,

"This Christmas bell
Rings out with glee
To ask you to
Our Christmas tree.



Come at 5 p.m. on 24th December."

- 6. One day, they went to the shops to buy the gifts for their friends.
- Early on Christmas Eve, all were busy with the tree.
 Even little Nell helped.
- 8. Dad fixed a star to the top of the tree, Mother hung strings of silver and gold from its branches, Grace and Colin tied pretty glass bulbs to it, and last of all, Nell handed to them the gifts which they tied to the tree as well.
 - 9. What a lovely sight it made!



- 1. At last five o'clock came and Mother and Dad helped Grace and Colin to greet their friends.
- 2. The children did not see the tree at first, for they all went out into the garden to play.
- 3. They had a picnic tea on the lawn, and each one was given a Christmas-bell paper cap to wear. They looked so gay.
- 4. After tea, they went in-doors to see the tree. "Oh, how lovely!" they all cried, as they gazed at the tree which stood in the middle of the room.
- 5. They took hold of hands and danced round the tree, while they sang this song—

"Round the Christmas tree we go, In a merry ring just so, We are happy, we are gay, For the morn brings Christmas Day."



6. Then Grace and Colin cut the gifts off the tree and little Nell handed one to each of the friends.

How happy they all were!

- 7. When it was time to go home, the children thanked Grace and Colin for a very happy time. Nell was the happiest of all.
- 8. Before going to sleep that night, Grace said to Mother, "What a happy day we've all had! Little Nell forgot that she had ever been ill."
 - "Yes," said Mother,
 "It's loving and giving That makes life worth living."



AN ELF'S WEEK.

1.

I am a little elf so gay, This is what I do each day,

2.

Each Sunday is a day of rest, So I do as I like best.

.

On Monday, with my broom I'm seen, Making my wee house quite clean.

4.

On Tuesday then, I wash with dew Flowers, buds and green leaves too.

5.

On Wednesday, I must mend the toys Broken by both girls and boys.

G

Thursday finds me weaving dreams For your sleep, while starlight gleams.

7

On Friday, on a mush-room seat, I make shoes for fairy feet.

8.

On Saturday I look for honey; Bees don't mind if I've no money.



And so my week goes quickly by; A busy happy elf am I.

NEW WORDS IN PREPARATORY IV. READER.

1. horn sheep stack fast bowl tuffet	3. doggie street became shared plenty later	5. Jackass laugh make live	yellow merry loudly tired softly		
spider afraid climbed tale felt	watched wise Toby 4. jelly	6. bread carter grinds grinding	stopped chase game ground gently flying dressed		
2. tooth windy cosy wire-less sweet radio front brush morning	back life world stronger longer want pond together	flour miller farmer ripen giving baker God	sleepy		

			45
8. wattle golden sure again sitting branch dream June bearing 9. run-away money popped rattled lifted spoke spent coins thought	helpers rice honey worker bees plums beans peas teeth ache weep skill quick	secret whisper press	body wax cells needed mixed pollen
		Jesus those lame crowds crowded wished blessed bother Master suffer forbid children speak	filled cocoon laid perfect among sting
	queen beyond danced worry floor through fairies child feared earth		large tools motor leaving hammer bang toot puffing safely quiet even

16.	19.	glow-worms	middle
fades	shell	mush-rooms	happiest
setting	along	stools	we've
sunset	beach	tables	worth
lovely	rosy	petals	living
1000	story	plates	buy
Ph. 21 ph. 1	rolling	sipped	glee
17.	bottom	fruit	11186
animals	bumped	seek	
horse	empty	bowing	
cream	toss smash	tucked	22.
butter			week
warm	happen rocks	The desired	Sunday
nothing	moved	21.	Monday
rids	indeed	Christmas	Tuesday
pests	maeea	Grace	Wednesda
harm		Colin	Thursday
socks	Transfe 16	written	Friday
2 - 10 - 10	50,000	December	Saturday
	20.	glass	broken
18.	Nancy's	bulbs	weaving
cuddly	kissed	greet	twilight
koala	dreamt	wear	gleams
choose	shady	gazed	I've
puppy	dell	early	dew
rather			

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