



Reading Rockets

# Reading Adventure Packs Second Grade



**ALABAMA  
READING  
INITIATIVE**  
Alabama State Department of Education



# Reading Adventure Packs

Dear Families,

Exploring new ideas and enjoying books with you sends a powerful message to your child: Reading and learning are fun, and happen everywhere – not just at school. These Reading Rockets Adventure Packs were created to help you and your child enjoy reading and learning together.

Reading Rockets carefully chose books that are widely available and appealing to young readers. If the two featured titles are not available, or you prefer another title, feel free to substitute books related to the theme. You'll find a list of alternative titles included in the bookmark.

Start your learning adventure by reading some books with your child about the popular topic. Then explore the topic with three activities.

We hope you'll enjoy reading and learning together!

## FAMILY SUPPORTS



The bookmark lists both the featured titles and additional titles.



The imagination activity encourages imaginative play, writing or drawing.



The creative activity is a hands-on craft project.



The get real activity focuses on real-world experiences for parent and child.



# Adventures in Reading

## Second Grade



### Heroes Adventure Pack

When packing for this reading adventure about heroes we suggest you include [The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind](#) by William Kamkwamba and Bryan Mealer. In *The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind*, William figures out how to build a windmill and bring electricity to his village. We also suggest adding [Tasty Baby Belly Buttons](#), by Judy Sierra. *Tasty Baby Belly Buttons* is a traditional Japanese folktale featuring a girl born from a melon who rescues babies from the oni, monsters who steal babies to eat their belly buttons.

Walker, R. (2015). *Heroes Adventure Pack*.

<https://www.readingrockets.org/article/reading-adventure-pack-heroes>



### Gardening Adventure Pack

When packing for this reading adventure about gardening we suggest you include [Weslandia](#) by Paul Fleischman and [Plant \(Eyewitness Books\)](#) by David Burnie. In *Weslandia*, Wesley's crop of huge, strange plants gives him the opportunity to create a civilization of his own and make new friends in the process. In *Plant*, detailed, full-color photographs complement the interesting facts about the fascinating world of plants, including plant anatomy and growth.

Walker, R. (2013). *Gardening Adventure Pack*

<https://www.readingrockets.org/article/reading-adventure-pack-gardening>



### Birds Adventure Pack

In [Aviary Wonders Inc. Spring Catalog and Instruction Manual](#), by Kate Samworth, people who want to have experiences with birds are offered the opportunity to order parts to build their own — now necessary since nearly all birds have become extinct. [Crinkleroot's Guide to Knowing the Birds](#), by Jim Arnosky, features the warm and folksy nature guide Crinkleroot, who introduces kids to birds and the pleasures of watching them.

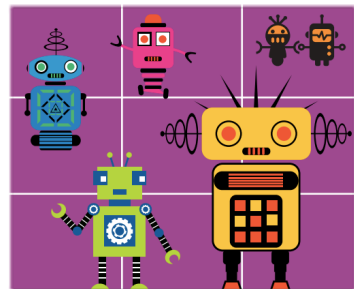
Walker, R. (2013). *Birds Adventure Pack*.

<https://www.readingrockets.org/article/reading-adventure-pack-birds>



# Adventures in Reading

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### Robots Adventure Pack

When packing for this reading adventure about robots we suggest you include Robot Dreams by Sara Varon and Robot (Eyewitness Books) by Roger Bridgman. *Robot Dreams* is a simple, endearing story of friendship and loss told through a wordless graphic novel. *Robot* offers a detailed, full-color guide to the fascinating world of machines that sense, think and act, including the history of artificial intelligence and robots at work.

Walker, R. (2013). *Robots Adventure Pack*.

<https://www.readingrockets.org/article/reading-adventure-pack-robots>



### Rocks Adventure Pack

The featured books are The Jade Stone, a Chinese folktale adapted by Caryn Yacowitz and the nonfiction book Rocks in His Head by Carol Otis Hurst. *Rocks in His Head* tells a real life story, about actual events and real people. It's about one man's fascination with rocks and how his lifelong interest in rocks made him a very happy man. The story is also a delightful introduction to looking closely at rocks, while it shows the positive, life-changing power of pursuing a personal interest. *The Jade Stone* shows the relationship a sculptor has with stone. It also shows the honorable commitment the artist has to his craft.

Reading Rockets. (2011). *Rocks Adventure Pack*

<https://www.readingrockets.org/article/reading-adventure-pack-rocks>



### Cooking Adventure Pack

Easy as Pie, by Cari Best, tells the story a young boy, Jacob, who sets out to bake a peach pie to celebrate his parents' anniversary. Jacob is inspired by television personality Chef Monty who blends into his recipes great lessons for life — such as the importance of following directions, doing your best to fix unexpected difficulties, always leaving a workspace as orderly as you found it, and persistence. How Did That Get in My Lunchbox? illustrates the path food travels from the farm, to the market, and finally, to our plates at home and in lunchboxes for school. Understanding “where our food comes from” can encourage healthier food choices.

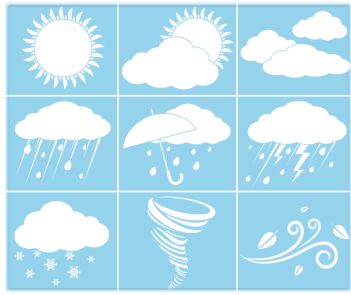
Reading Rockets. (2011). *Cooking Adventure Pack*.

<https://www.readingrockets.org/article/reading-adventure-pack-cooking>



# Adventures in Reading

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### Weather Adventure Pack

The featured books are *Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs* by Judi Barrett and *Weather* by Seymour Simon. *Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs* tells a tall but tasty tale of wacky weather. In the town of Chewandswallow, the weather provides three delicious meals a day. But when severe weather comes to town bringing storms of gigantic food, Chewandswallow residents must figure out how to save themselves. In *Weather*, noted science writer Seymour Simon uses photographs to help explain what weather is. Readers are introduced to how general weather conditions are formed and the type of instruments used to help predict the weather.

Walker, R. (2011). *Weather Adventure Pack*.

<https://www.readingrockets.org/article/reading-adventure-pack-weather>



### Building Adventure Pack

*Roberto: The Insect Architect* tells the story of Roberto, a young termite who dreams of building with boards rather than eating them. When no one is willing to give Roberto a chance in the big city, he turns his attention to helping others, building homes anonymously for dispossessed insects. In *Construction Zone*, noted photojournalist Richard Sobol uses photographs to help explain the complex and challenging process of building a building. The building readers are introduced to is the Massachusetts Institute of Technology's Stata Center, designed by architect Frank O. Gehry.

Walker, R. (2012). *Building Adventure Pack*

<https://www.readingrockets.org/article/reading-adventure-pack-building>



### Archaeology Adventure Pack

When packing for this reading adventure about archaeology we suggest you include *Archaeologists Dig for Clues* by Kate Duke and *The Shipwrecked Sailor: An Egyptian Tale with Hieroglyphics* by Tamara Bower. In *Archaeologists Dig for Clues*, young readers learn how archaeologists set up a dig site, what tools they use, and how they record their findings. *The Shipwrecked Sailor* is based on a real papyrus scroll of hieroglyphics that tells a tale of a voyage on the Red Sea to an enchanted land. Parts of the story are translated into hieroglyphics – pictures of people, animals, and everyday objects.

Reading Rockets. (2013). *Archaeology Adventure Pack*.

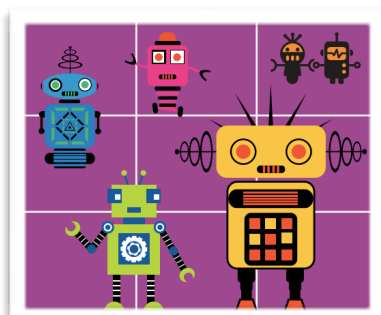
<https://www.readingrockets.org/article/reading-adventure-pack-archaeology>

# Aventuras con la lectura

Second Grade



Jardinería



Robots



Arqueología



Aves



Las rocas



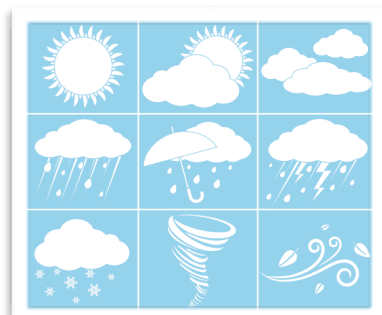
La construcción



Héroes



Cocinar



El clima

# Additional Resources

These videos and articles provide you with more information about how to support your child as they practice foundational reading skills at home.

## FAMILY SUPPORTS



Article: [PEER: Talking While you Read](#)  
Video: [Bear Says Thanks](#)  
Video: [Llama Llama and the Bully Goat](#)  
*REL: Southeast (2020)*



Article: [Challenging and Important Words](#)  
Video: [I Want to be a Vet](#)  
*REL: Southeast (2020)*



Article in English: [Tips for Reading Aloud](#)  
Artículo en español: [Consejos para padres de niños](#)  
*Reading Rockets (2008)*



Article: [How to Read Aloud Nonfiction](#)  
Video: [Reading Aloud Nonfiction](#)  
*Reading Rockets (2011)*



Article in English: [How to Read an e-Book](#)  
Artículo en español: [Cómo leer un libro electrónico con su hijo](#)  
*Reading Rockets (2013)*

Reading Rockets (2020, June 10). Reading Rockets: <https://www.readingrockets.org/>.

Regional Educational Laboratory Southeast at Florida State University (2020, June 10). Supporting Your Child's Reading at Home: <https://ies.ed.gov/ncee/edlabs/regions/southeast/foundations/index.asp>.