

Reading Mastery Transformations Grade 1:

Introduction

Reading Mastery Transformations

Many students who fail to become good readers never mastered, in the early grades, the basic strategies or received the focused practice that they needed to develop critical decoding, reading, and comprehension skills.

In response to the immense challenge school districts face in closing the achievement gap and improving outcomes for all students, *Reading Mastery Transformations* was developed to provide careful reading instruction and focused skills' development in the formative years. The program is designed to equip beginning, average, and below-average readers with the foundational skills they need to become strong, independent readers.

Reading Mastery Transformations utilizes best practices established by leading researchers of phonological awareness, automaticity, metacognition, phonics, oral reading, and Direct Instruction. All levels of the program have been extensively field-tested and research-validated in the classroom. The program has repeatedly demonstrated its effectiveness in improving student outcomes.

Reading Mastery Transformations Grade 1

Reading

Reading Mastery Transformations Grade 1 Reading is a one-year, second-level Direct Instruction reading program. It is appropriate for above-average kindergarteners, average- and above-average-performing first graders, and second graders who have not yet mastered the range of skills Grade 1 Reading teaches. Grade 1 Reading may also work with older students who are non-readers or have poorly developed decoding skills.

In Grade 1 Reading, children learn word attack, decoding, and comprehension skills. Children who complete Grade 1 Reading will master over 2,000 words in one school year, more than twice the number of words presented in the second level of traditional basal programs. By the end of Grade 1 Reading, children will be able to decode a multitude of stories and informational passages at a reasonable fluency rate and with good accuracy, such as this passage below from lesson 159. In short, children will be well prepared to succeed academically at, and beyond, the next level.



Hot Peppers

The peppers from some pepper plants are crisp and taste sweet. Many kinds of peppers have a hot taste when you bite into them. Hot peppers do not feel warm if you hold them in your hand. But if someone bites into a hot pepper, it can make the person feel like their mouth is on fire.

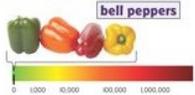
Milk and food made from milk, like cheese, cream, and butter, can take the burn from hot peppers away. Another way of making the burning go away is time.



If your mouth burns really badly from eating hot peppers, it may take a long time—many minutes or even hours—before the burning feeling goes away.

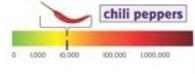
284

One of the scales that tells how hot peppers are is called the Scoville scale. Bell peppers are not hot at all. You can eat bell peppers without making your mouth burn. Below are pictures of bell peppers. You can see that the mark for the heat score of bell peppers on the Scoville scale is zero.



bell peppers

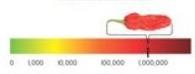
Some chili peppers are not very hot, some are hot, and some can be really hot. Below is a picture of a chili pepper. You can see that the mark for the heat score of a chili pepper on the Scoville scale is 10,000.



chili peppers

287

Almost everybody can hold very hot peppers in their hands because the skin of your hands is thick. The oil from the hot peppers does not get through that thick skin. But oil that gets on a person's hand can rub off on their face and other areas with thin skin. On areas with thin skin, the oil will feel like it is burning. If people get hot pepper oil on their cheeks and chin, it will burn and make that skin red. If people get the hot pepper oil in their eyes, it will make their eyes water and they may start to cry. It is a good idea to wash your hands very well after you touch hot peppers.



ghost pepper

288

People who are not used to eating hot peppers and take a few bites of a really hot pepper may get sores on their lips and tongue. If someone eats too many of those peppers, they can also get sick.



People who grow up eating hot peppers don't get sores on the inside of their mouths from eating them. These people often like the taste and feeling from eating hot peppers.



Many animals will eat peppers that are not hot and sometimes peppers that are hot. Hot peppers will do the same things to most mammals that they do to people.

289

Textbook C, Lesson I59, Sides 2–5

Student Materials

The following student materials are included in *Reading Mastery Transformations* Grade 1 Reading.

Textbooks

The three non-consumable hardbound books (A, B, and C) contain original, full-color illustrations, photos, and engaging stories as well as informational passages that allow children to practice and apply decoding and comprehension skills.

Workbooks

The three consumable softbound books (A, B, and C) contain full-color illustrations and photos and additional daily decoding and comprehension activities coordinated with the teacher content and textbook. Mastery tests appear every tenth lesson in the workbooks. The workbooks also include take-home stories and informational passages that give children an opportunity to practice reading outside the classroom.

Lined-Paper Activities

Lined-paper activities appear in every lesson of the program. The written activities provide focused practice on letter writing, spelling, and sentence writing. A lined-paper master **PDF** is included in the teacher course in case appropriate primary paper recommended for these lined-paper activities is not readily available.