

Grade 6

Building Fluency

Through Practice & Performance

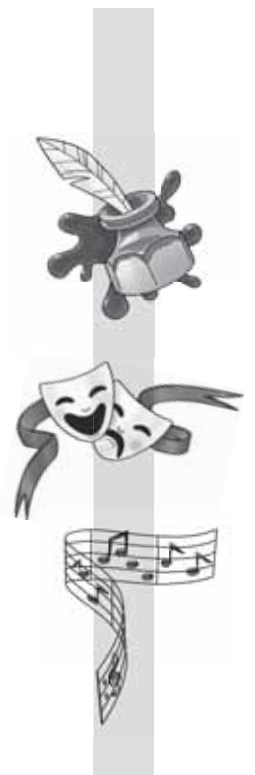


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 SHELL EDUCATION

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Introduction

How to Use This Book

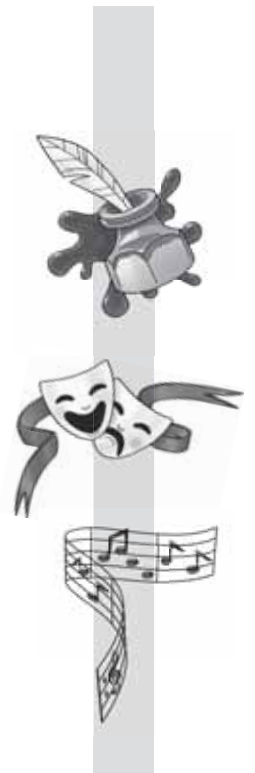
The texts in this book are engaging and enjoyable. Students will want to read, reread, and perform these texts. As they do, they will develop into fluent readers, improving their abilities to recognize words accurately and effortlessly, and read with meaningful expression and phrasing. However, you, the teacher, are the most important part in developing instruction that includes these texts.

The texts need to be read repeatedly or rehearsed over several days. Introduce one text at a time and practice it over two to five days, depending on how quickly your students develop fluent mastery. Write the text you are going to teach on chart paper or project it on an overhead transparency or in a *PowerPoint* presentation. Read the text with your students several times a day. Read it at the beginning of each day; read it during various breaks in the day; and read it at the end of each day. Encourage the students to read, rehearse, and perform their passages in a variety of ways—solos, duos, trios, quartets, whole group, choral, alternating lines, and more.

Make two copies of the text for each student. Have the students keep one copy at school in a “fluency folder.” The other copy can be sent home with the students so that they can continue practicing the text with their families. Communicate to families the importance of repeated practice at school and at home.

The various sections (Poems and Rhymes, Song Lyrics, Monologues, and Reader’s Theater) are not presented in reading-level order. However, the pieces within each section have been sequenced from easiest to most difficult. We encourage you to stretch your students by challenging them to read passages that may seem difficult for them on initial reading. Students can often handle material that is more challenging if they have the opportunity to rehearse the passage and be guided in their rehearsal by you and other students in the class.

It is important to note, as you select texts from this book, that many traditional versions of texts have been altered and appear in various forms. The version in this book may not have the exact wording with which you are familiar. In this case, enjoy the exposure to another version of the traditional text, or feel free to type the words to the version you know, and allow your students to perform that version.





Song Lyrics



The Ship That Never Returned

by Henry Clay Work

On a summer's day
When the wave was rippled
By the softest gentlest breeze,
Did a ship set sail
With a cargo laden
For a port beyond the seas.
There were sweet farewells.
There were loving signals.
While a form was yet discerned,
Though they knew it not,
'Twas a solemn parting,
For the ship, she never returned.

Did she never return?
She never returned.
Her fate, it is yet unlearned.
Though for years and years
There were fond ones watching,
Yet the ship she never returned.



Song Lyrics



The Ship That Never Returned (cont.)

Said a feeble lad
To his anxious mother,
“I must cross the wide, wide sea,
For they say, perchance
In a foreign climate,
There is health and strength for me.”
'Twas a gleam of hope
In a maze of danger
And her heart for her youngest yearned.
Yet she sent him forth
With a smile and blessing
On the ship that never returned.

Did she never return?
She never returned.
Her fate, it is yet unlearned.
Though for years and years
There were fond ones watching,
Yet the ship she never returned.



Song Lyrics



The Ship That Never Returned (cont.)

“Only one more trip,”
Said a gallant seaman,
As he kissed his weeping wife.
“Only one more purse
Of that golden treasure
And ’twill last us all through life.
Then I’ll spend my days
In a cozy cottage
And enjoy the rest I’ve earned.”
But alas! poor man!
For he sail’d commander
Of the ship that never returned.

Did she never return?
She never returned.
Her fate, it is yet unlearned.
Though for years and years
There were fond ones watching,
Yet the ship she never returned.