Chrome Wheels, Blue Keels, and Silver Wings

... a book to be read to and by young people learning to read



















By Ronald E. Johnson, C.Ph.D.

Book 4 of 10

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Book design and composition by
Timothy Baker

Author
Ronald E. Johnson, C.Ph.D.

Table of Contents

Introduction	Page 2
Help for Sounding Out & Dividing Words	Pages 3-6
Chrome Wheels	Pages 7-23
Blue Keels	Pages 24-34
Silver Wings	Pages 35-47
Activity Pages	Pull-out Centerfold

Introduction

Children learn to read when they are interested in people, things, animals, events, and places. This book is designed to make young readers interested in learning to say, spell, and use new words. Every young boy and girl likes to play with cars, trucks, boats, tractors, and airplanes. The sound of an airplane roaring across the sky will draw the eyes of youth. The squeal of tires on pavement will demand that heads turn to see what happened. The growl of an eighteen wheeler truck causes goose bumps to pop up on the necks of boys and men. Girls might dream of sailing across the blue sea to find love and happiness. A tractor plowing a field makes a boy start dreaming of manhood. This book brings the world of wheels, keels, and wings to the laps of young dreamers who are learning to read and reading to learn about syllables, prefixes, suffixes, and multi-syllable words.

Helps For Sounding Out Words

Many English words are “borrowed” from Greek and Latin words that do not fit conveniently into English phonetic rules. Such words must be learned by memory (repeating them often). By reading good books repeatedly, children learn to pronounce, spell, and use words, and to become wise.

The following helps for reading are provided to assist the teacher in training young readers to pronounce words according to basic phonetic rules. These reading rules do not apply to all English words, but the rules equip readers to pronounce and spell many words easily.

English words are made up of two types of letters: **vowels (a,e,i,o,u, and sometimes y) and consonants (b,c,d,f,g,h,j,k,l,m,n,p,q,r,s,t,v,w,x,z).**

In **short words (or single syllables) with <u>one</u> vowel <u>within</u> the word or syllable**, the vowel usually has a short sound. Short word examples: h**a**nd, c**a**t, r**e**d, sl**e**d, f**i**sh, l**i**p, d**i**sh, d**o**g, l**o**g, h**u**g, r**u**g. **A single vowel at the <u>end</u> of a syllable or short word** usually has a long sound (says its name): b**e**, h**e**, m**e**, h**i**, g**o**, s**o**, b**y**, m**y**.

In **short words (or single syllables) with <u>two</u> vowels**, the first vowel usually has a long sound (says its name) and the second vowel is usually silent. Short word examples: **a**pe, **a**te, **e**at, f**ee**t, w**i**se, pr**i**ze, s**oa**p, g**oa**t, bl**ue**, m**u**le, b**y**e, l**y**e.

Some consonants that are side by side make a special sound (bl, br, ch, cl, dr, fl, gr, pl, sh, st, th, wh). Examples: **bl**ack, **br**anch, **cl**ap, **dr**um, **fl**ag, **gr**ape, **pl**um, **sh**ip, **st**op, **th**in, **wh**ip).

The combination of **ph** has the sound of the consonant **f**. Examples: tele**ph**one, ele**ph**ant.

More Helps For Sounding Out Words

The combination of the letters **sl** usually have a special sound made by placing the tip of the tongue just behind the upper teeth and flipping the tongue to pronounce the **sl** sound as in **sl**eep, **sl**ow, **sl**umber, **sl**ed, **sl**ope.

Words ending in two **l**'s have the sound of only one **l**. Examples: wa**ll**, hi**ll**, pi**ll**, fe**ll**.

Words with combinations of a vowel and the letter **r** (er, ir, ur, ar, and or), usually have the sound of just **r**. Examples: sug**ar**, s**ir**, wis**er**, b**ir**d, col**or**, w**or**d, auth**or**, h**ur**t, b**ur**n.

The combination of the letters **ow** sometimes have a special sound as in **ow**l, h**ow**l, c**ow**, n**ow**, h**ow**. At other times the **ow** letters together make a special sound in which only the **O** vowel is pronounced, as in st**o**w, b**o**w, cr**o**w, r**o**w, bl**o**w.

When two **o**'s are side by side, they make a short double-o sound, as in c**oo**k, f**oo**t, b**oo**k, h**oo**k, sh**oo**k. At other times, the **oo** letters have a long double-o sound as in b**oo**t, h**oo**t, t**oo**t, l**oo**se.

Helps For Reading, Dividing, and Saying Words

Words that are in bold should be explained as children listen to parents or teachers read the book. The following reading helps should be consulted and explained as children ask about the **bold** words. This habit expands vocabulary and facilitates memorization of phonetic rules and word meanings. It also stimulates children to draw pictures and play-act the various imaginations which will "well up" in their minds as they read or listen.

Syllables: Every syllable must have a vowel. Many words divide after a vowel or between double consonants.
Examples: ta/ble, pud/dle, ruf/fle, cir/cle, lit/tle, sprin/kle, cy/cle, trac/tor, trail/er, se/dan.

If a **syllable** ends in **a**, **e**, **o**, or **u**, the vowel says its name. If it ends in **I** it may be short or long.
Examples: va/ca/tion, lo/ca/tion, sal/va/tion, de/pend, u/ni/form, star/va/tion.

In a word of several **syllables**, if there is a **k** sound, it is usually sounded as a **c**.
Examples: va/ca/tion, fac/to/ry, va/cant, frac/tion, ac/tion, af/fec/tion, e/lec/tric, de/moc/ra/cy.

Some multi-syllable words are **divided with a / in the text** to help young readers learn to pronounce long words according to syllables.
Examples: **pul/led**, **mer/chants**, **wa/gon**.

More Helps For Reading, Dividing, and Saying Words

Suffixes include **s**, **ed**, **ing**. If a word ends in one consonant and has just one vowel before the consonant, we double the consonant before adding a suffix that begins with a vowel. We usually divide the word between the double consonants.
Examples: **hop** (hop/**ped** and hop/**ping**), **rub** (rub/**bed** and rub/**bing**), **run** (run/**ning**), **dream** (dream**ed** and dream/**ing**).

Homonyms can be confusing. They have to be learned from use. Some common homonyms are **to**, **too**, **two**. We go **to** church. We are **too** tired to run. You and I are **two** different people.

Other **homonyms** are road and rode, write and right, hear and here, would and wood, ate and eight, pale and pail, meat and meet, by and buy, knew and new, see and sea, week and weak, our and hour, be and bee, there and their, tale and tail, by and bye, threw and through.

Chrome Wheels



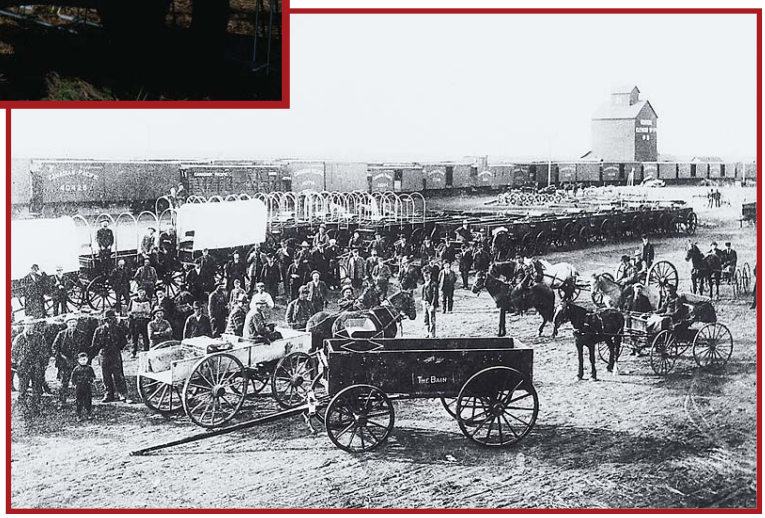


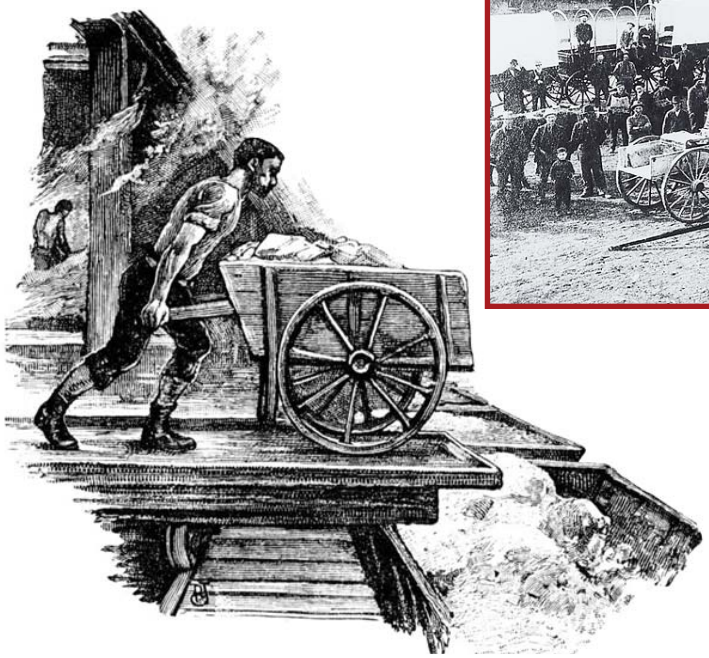


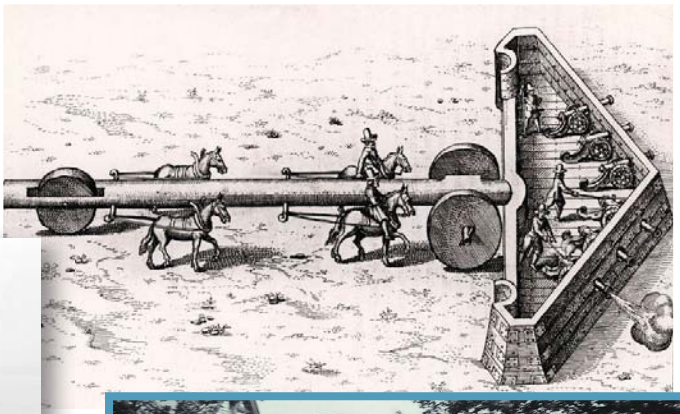


The first wheels were used on **carts** with one axle and two wheels to **haul** food and other items to trade or sell. The two wheels were made out of round **logs**. Men and women **pul/led** the two-wheeled carts.



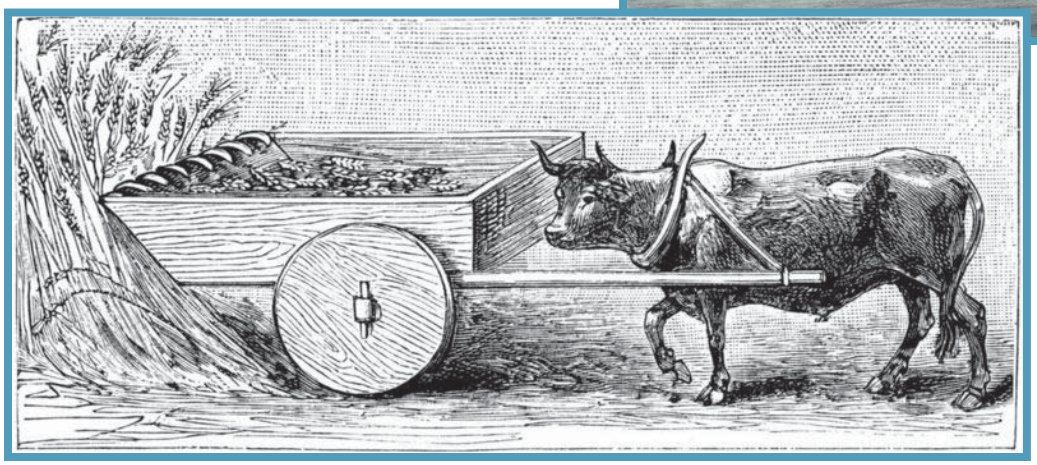








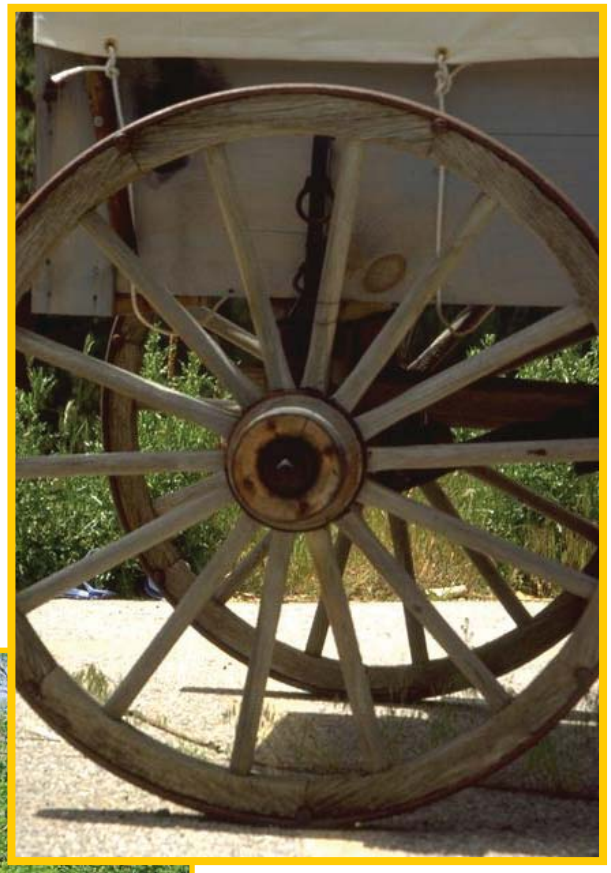




Later in time, soldiers and **mer/chants** used carts and **wa/gons** made of wood with two **wood/en** axles and four wooden wheels. Men learned how to train horses, mules, and oxen to pull the carts and wagons to haul **weapons**, **sup/plies**, and food.

Several hundred years later, men called **black/smiths** made wheels with wooden **hubs** and **spokes**, and iron **rims**. The iron rims **at/tach/ed** to the wooden wheels did not wear out or break as **quick/ly** as the wooden wheels without **metal** rims.





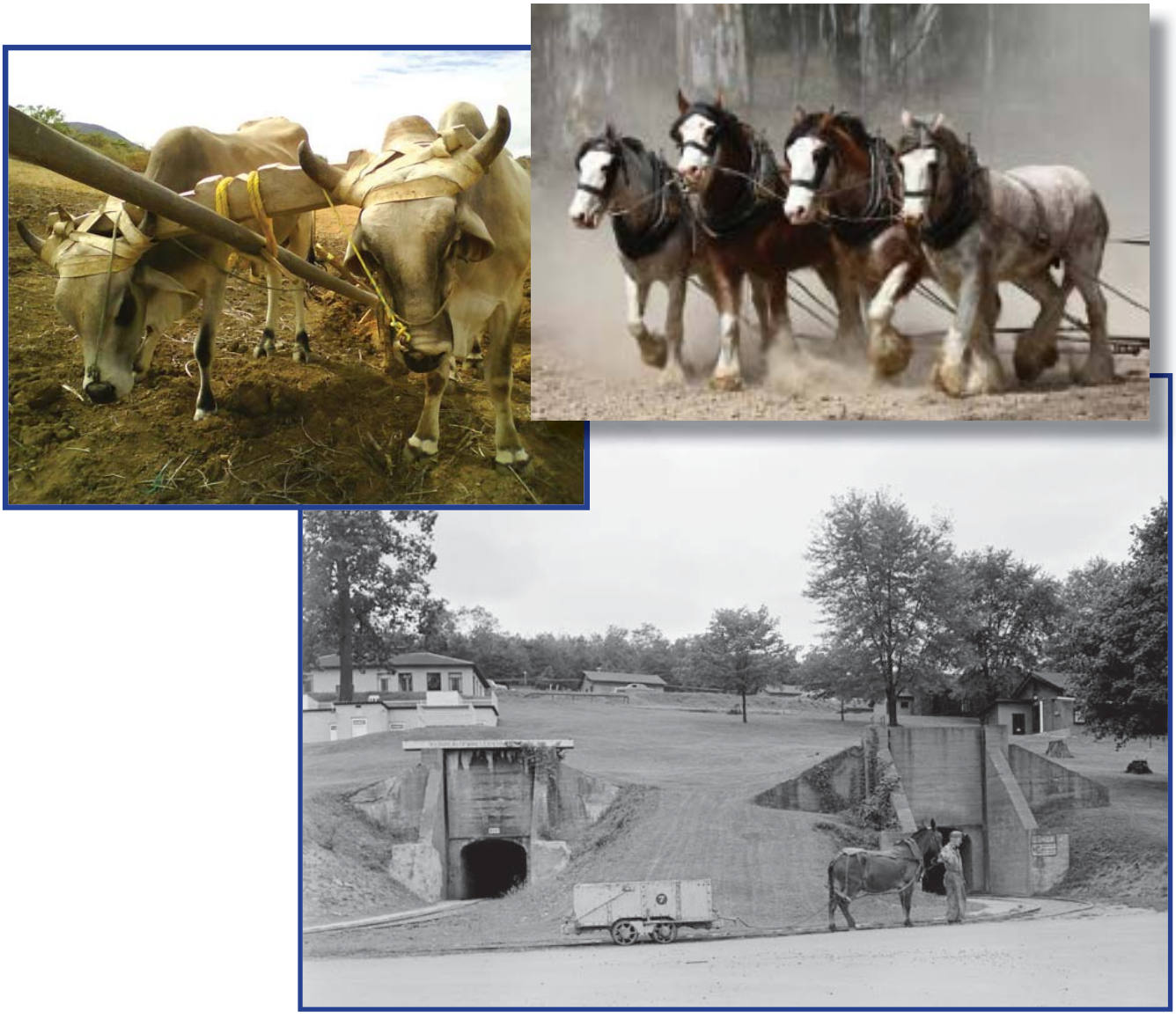






Cre/a/tive men **de/sign/ed** better wheels, carts, and wagons, and invented **plows**, **coaches**, **carriages**, and **buggies** with wheels and axles made of wood and metal.

Better wheels and wagons allowed merchants to hitch up a **dozen** mules, horses, or oxen that could pull **several** large wagons full of copper ore, **buf/fa/lo** hides, or **mi/ning** equipment.







A long time ago, **plows** and **trac/tors** had metal wheels without rubber tires. Men learned to put rubber tires on metal wheels. A man named Henry Ford built automobiles that had rubber tires **mount/ed** on iron wheels. Rubber tires **al/low** vehicles to travel fast and safely on roads and **high/ways**.







Brave men and women drive **am/bu/lan/ces** and **fire trucks** with black tires mounted on metal chrome wheels. **Air/planes** with **in/fla/ted** tires mounted on chrome wheels take off and land on concrete **run/ways** at airports.

Policemen patrol streets on **bi/cy/cles** and **mo/tor/cy/cles**, or in **pa/trol** cars. Small **chil/dren** like to ride **tricycles**. Some clowns **lurch** and spin on **unicycles** to make people laugh.









Boys and girls zip along **side/walks** and jump curbs on bicycles and **skate/boards**. **Teen/ag/ers** like to **swing** and **sway** around parking lots on **roller** skates with metal or **plastic** wheels. (The prefix **uni** means one. **Bi** means two. **Tri** means three)







Teenagers dream of the day **they** can drive **their** own cars. Sports **fans** watch and listen to racecars speed around a **track**. Grownups drive **sedans** and sport utility vehicles (SUV) to work, church services, picnics, grocery stores, and **va/ca/tion** spots.









Men and women drive **pick/up trucks** hitched to **trailers** loaded with hay bales, goats, cows, sheep, pigs, and horses to **market**. Families haul **travel trailers** to lakes, rivers, parks, and campgrounds to relax, fish, and hunt along rocky **trails**.



Diesel trucks, called eighteen wheelers, **transport** furniture, tires, cows, shoes, groceries, milk, dog food, and thousands of other **products** from factories and farms to stores. Soldiers **operate** four-wheel-drive **Jeeps** to defend homes, churches, schools, and factories.







Monster trucks with giant rubber tires race across dirt piles and stacks of old cars while people cheer and shout. Sportsmen steer four-wheelers along mountain trails to harvest wild animals, fish, or berries.









The use of wheels gave us such words as **trucker**, **driver**, **hauler**, **biker**, **skater**, **passenger**, **mule skinner**, and **freighter** to describe the person who drives the vehicle.

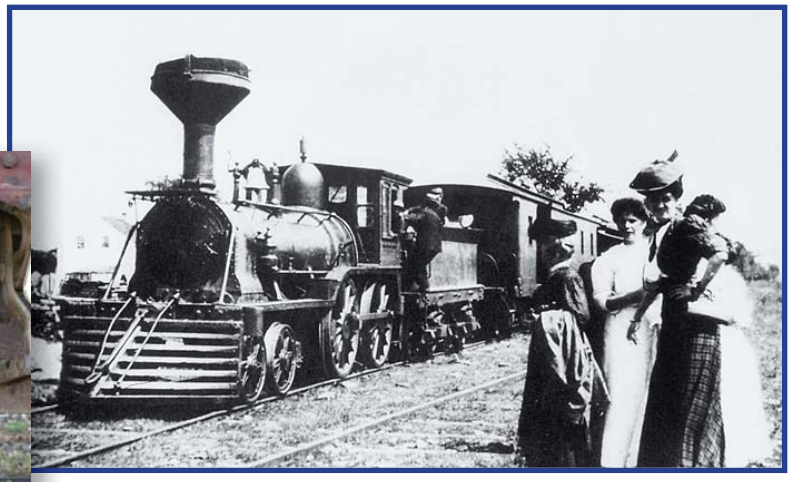






Iron wheels on trains go clickety-click on metal rails. Big train engines pull **flat cars** loaded with machines, **tank cars** loaded with liquid, and **box cars** loaded with things like food, chairs, and tools.









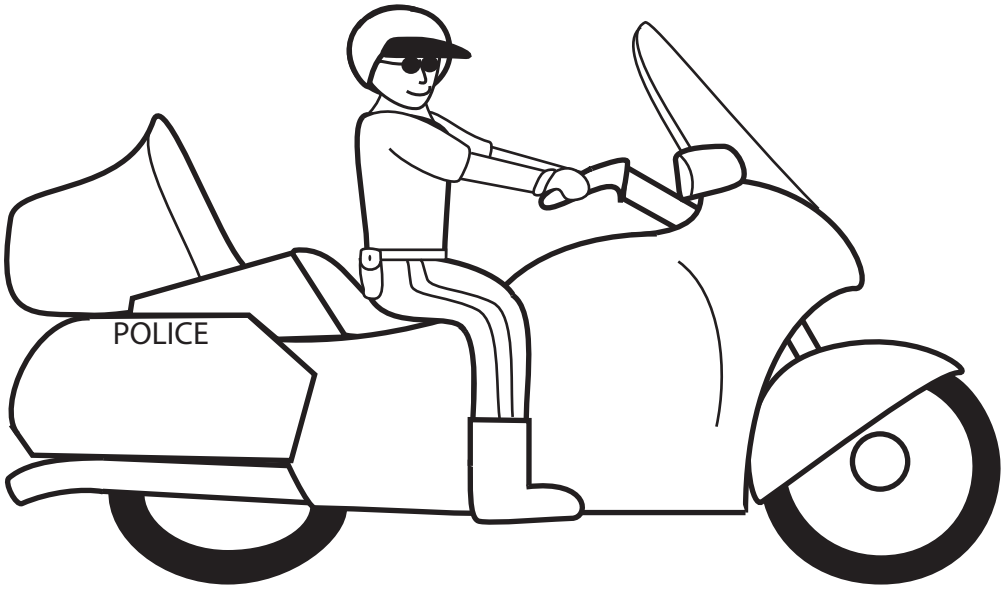




The red **caboose** at the end of the cars is a portable house for men who work on the train. Most train cars have at least eight metal wheels.

Activity Page

Color this Motorcycle Policeman.



Copy these words.

Police _____ _____ _____

patrol _____ _____ _____

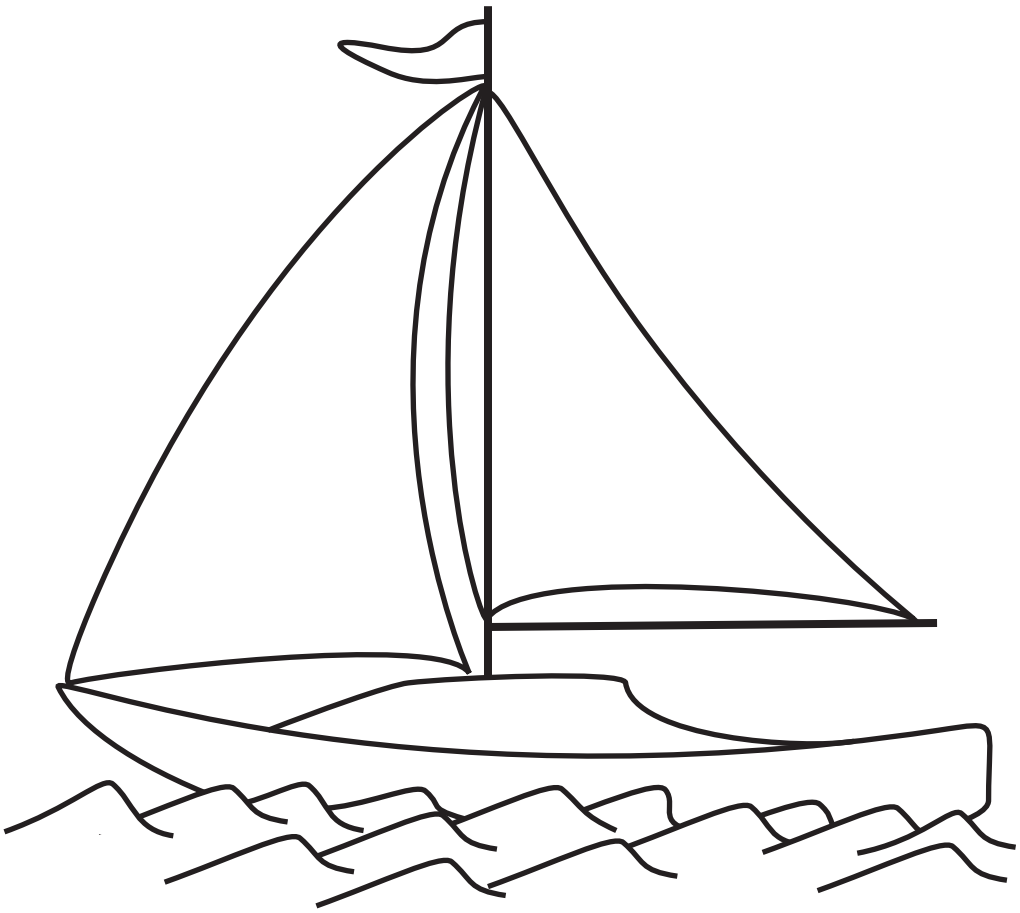
wheel _____ _____ _____

tires _____ _____ _____

rubber _____ _____ _____

Activity Page

Color this Ship.



Copy these words.

ship _____ _____ _____

boat _____ _____ _____

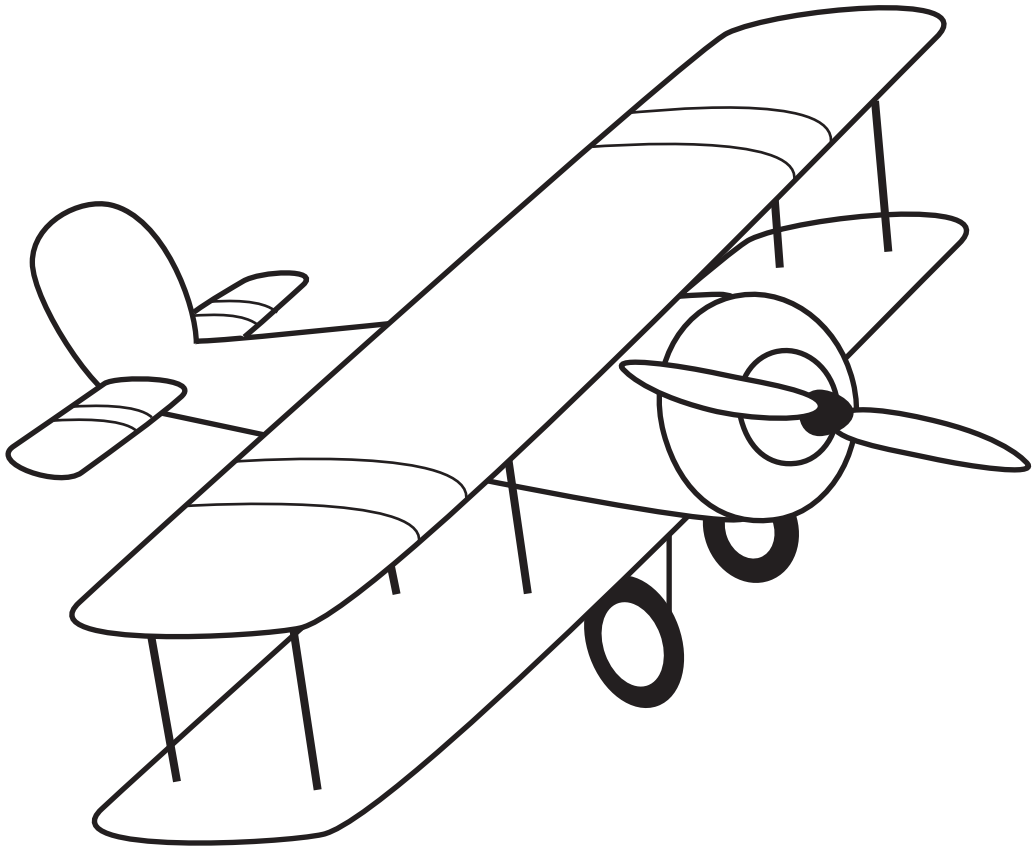
canoe _____ _____ _____

paddle _____ _____ _____

surf _____ _____ _____

Activity Page

Color this Airplane.



Copy these words.

plane _____ _____ _____

wing _____ _____ _____

motor _____ _____ _____

jet _____ _____ _____

vapor _____ _____ _____

Activity Page

Draw and Color Your Favorite Thing in this Book.

Blue Keels



Humans have used boats for fishing, hauling, and traveling for at least six thousand years. The first boats were called **rafts** made out of logs tied together. Men used long **poles** or **paddles** to guide rafts along rivers and across lakes.





Tree trunks were chopped and dug out to make **canoes**. Men improved the idea of canoes to make **boats** out of wood planks. The spaces between the planks were stuffed with **twisted** animal hair soaked in grease to prevent water from entering the boat.





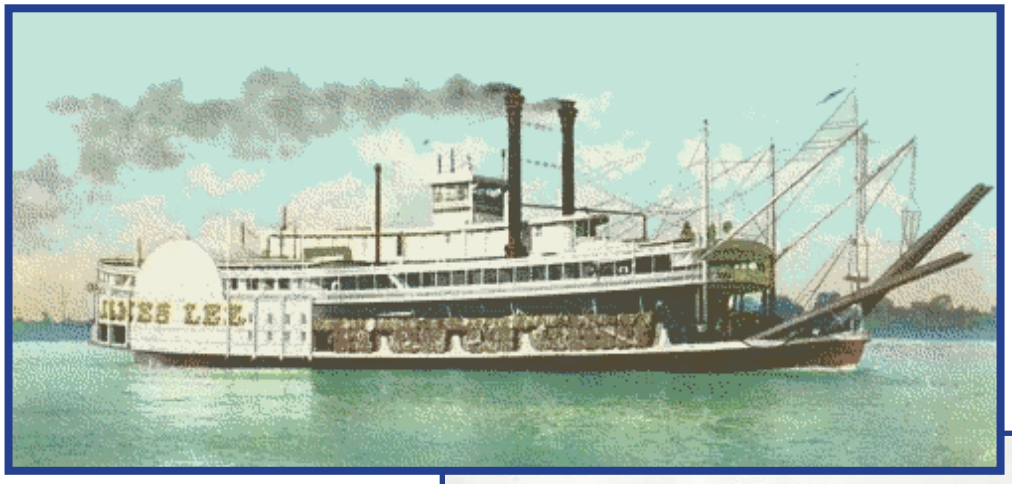
Sails were put on boats to make them go fast with less effort. Sailors added **keels** to the bottom of sailboats so they would not turn over so easily in storms.



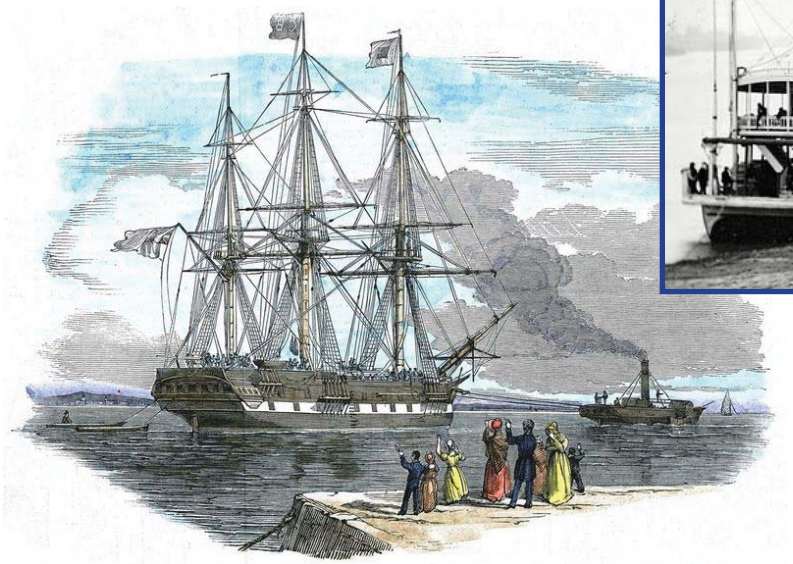




Fishermen on the Sea of Galilee let Jesus sit in a sail boat to talk with people on the shore. Many years later in time, Robert Fulton put a steam engine on a boat so it could travel up and down rivers when no wind blew to fill sails.







Modern boats have powerful gasoline or **diesel** motors that **propel** the boats **over** waves, **through** storms, and **against** currents. Huge **ocean liners** with diesel motors carry tons of **freight** to ports around the world.







People have always been **in/ter/est/ed** in beaches, coasts, shores, seas, bays, and oceans. Children enjoy riding in canoes, skiffs, motorboats, ferries, sailboats, yachts, and ships. Boys like to pretend to be **sailors** on Navy ships. Girls dream of **ro/man/tic** sailing trips to tropical islands.













Fishermen use rafts, canoes, and motorboats to catch fish for food and pleasure. Big **trawlers** haul huge nets to catch tuna, crabs, shrimp, and other sea creatures for family tables and public **rest/au/rants**.

Ocean liners carry tourists across the bay, sea, or ocean to vacation spots with white **beaches**. Sleek power boats skip across waves at high speeds that toss up rooster tails of water. Navy aircraft carriers launch fighter **jets** to defend freedom. Coast Guard boats push through stormy seas to **rescue** people from danger.







A popular type of mini-boat is a **surfboard** on which surfers ride big waves along **coasts**. Some surfboards have sails to allow **surfers** to skim across the tops of waves at fast speeds.







Almost everyone likes to drift down a river on a rubber raft or inflated tire tube while thinking about such things as love, God, friends, adventure, or family.





Silver Wings









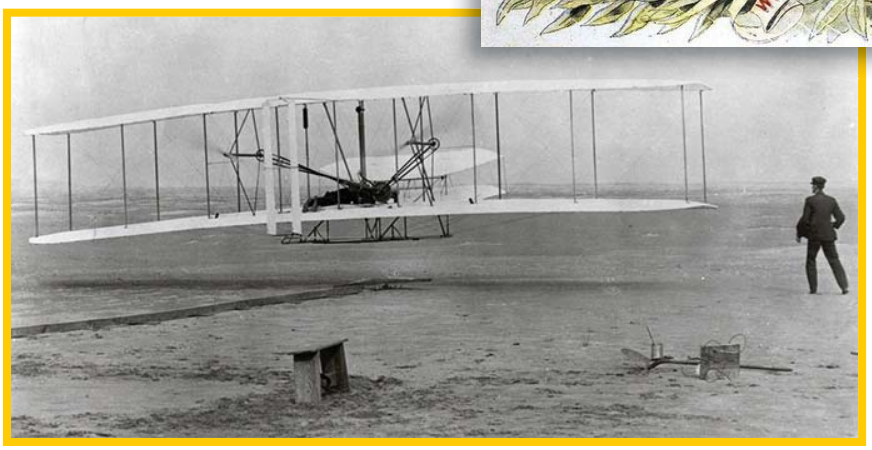
From the time God created humans, most men, women, and children have wanted to fly among the clouds. The idea to invent an airplane came from people who watched **birds** in flight and **kites** sway in the breeze.



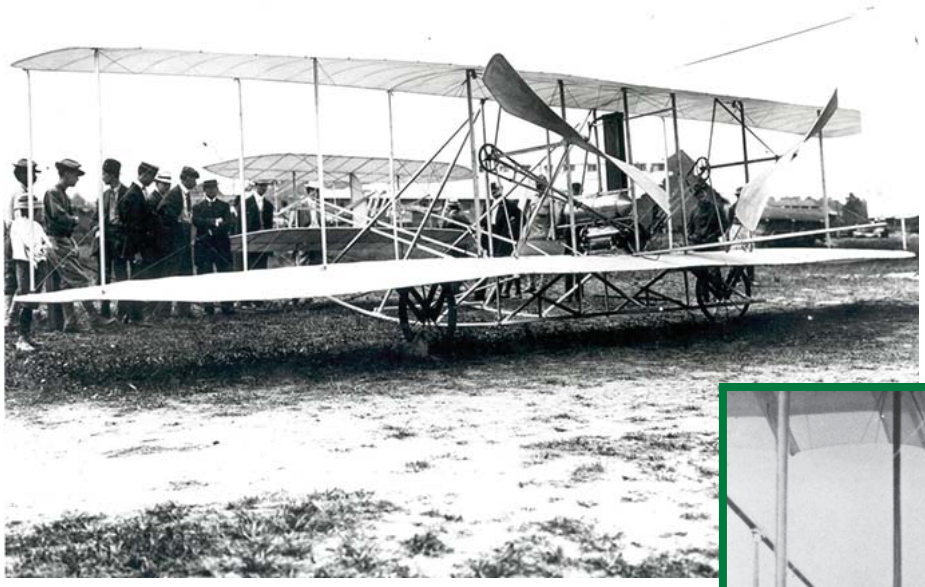


Orville and Wilbur Wright invented the first airplane years ago. They used parts from bicycles, boxes, and bundles of cloth to put together a **flying machine**. It had two wings covered with cloth.





The body of the plane was also made from strips of wood covered with cloth. It was really the first **ultra-light** plane. The motor was a small single-cylinder gasoline engine with a wooden **pro/pel/ler**.







Planes made a long time ago had **double wings** in front. One was on top and one was on the bottom of the **fu/se/lage**. Another wing was attached at the back of the plane. The **pilot** sat in an open **cockpit** where wind, rain, and snow stung the pilot's eyes, ears, and nose as he flew among the clouds.

Double-wing airplanes were used to **haul** mail and to **spray** fertilizer on crops such as cotton, lettuce, apples, and beans.







The first fighter planes had **machine guns** mounted in front of the open cockpit. Later in time, the **wings** and fuselage of fighter planes were made of thin metal that shined like silver. The strong silver wings carried powerful machine guns that shot deadly bullets at enemy aircraft, boats, bridges, bunkers, and trucks.







Planes improved as time passed. Engineers learned to cover the cockpits with clear **plastic** to protect the pilots from wind and bad weather. **Gigantic** four-engine planes were built to carry soldiers, supplies, and bombs high over mountains and across oceans to protect families from enemy soldiers.

Some military airplanes are made to carry **soldiers** with **parachutes** so they can jump out of planes and land **safely** near enemy troops in fields, meadows, mountains, and forests.



Military jet planes were invented to fly faster than the speed of sound to carry bombs and rockets quickly toward enemy troops and factories. Jet **bombers** and jet **passenger** planes **zoom** above the clouds and leave **vapor trails** high in the sky.



Some business people fly from place to place in **private** planes or **helicopters**. Some private planes have a **single** engine and can carry only the pilot. Others have **twin** engines and can carry a dozen passengers.











Airplanes with three engines are called **tri-motors**. Jet planes have jet engines mounted **in** the fuselage, **on** the wings, or **against** the sides of the fuselage.

Special planes have **pontoons** or **skis** instead of wheels so pilots can take off and land on snow in **mead/ows** or on water in lakes and rivers. Those planes are used to carry hunters, soldiers, doctors, nurses, fishermen, and explorers to **remote** mountains, lakes, and valleys.

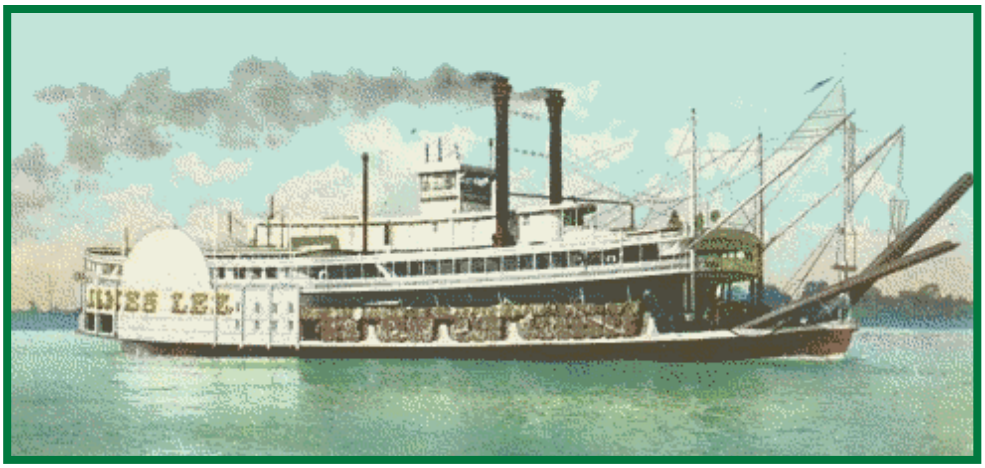




Perhaps you will fly high in the sky someday. When you do, remember to thank **Orville and Wilbur Wright** for inventing the airplane. When you travel on a vacation, remember Henry Ford for building cars. When you enjoy a boat ride, remember Robert Fulton for putting an engine on a boat.







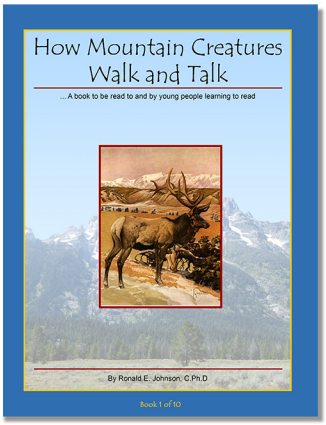


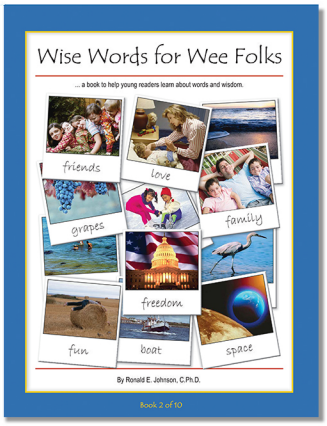


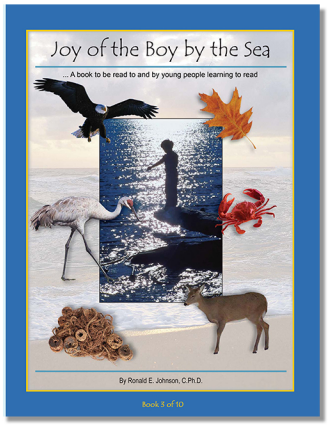


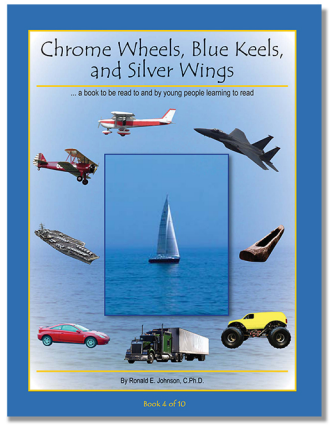
These men dared to build vehicles that other people only dreamed of making. They gave us Chrome Wheels, Blue Keels, and Silver Wings to enjoy life, serve others, and go to the places where we play, work, or worship.

Read other books available in the Reader Series

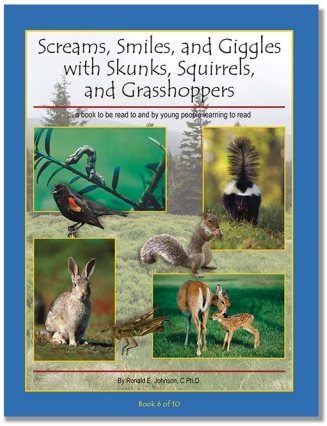


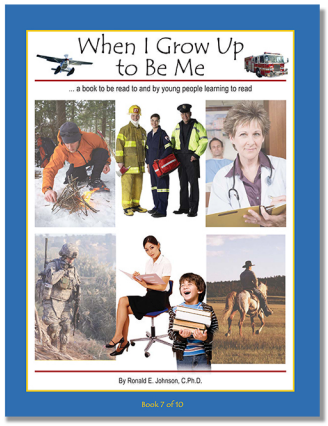


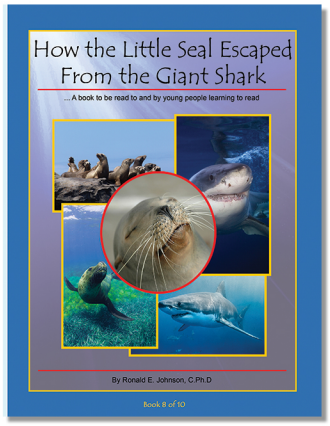


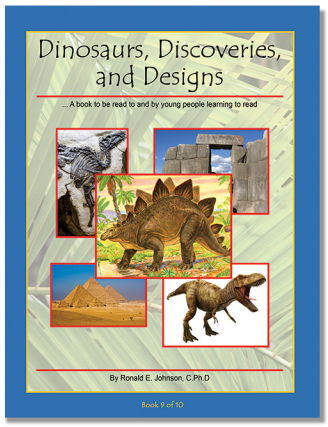


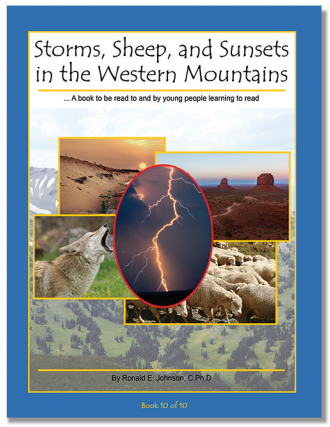












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