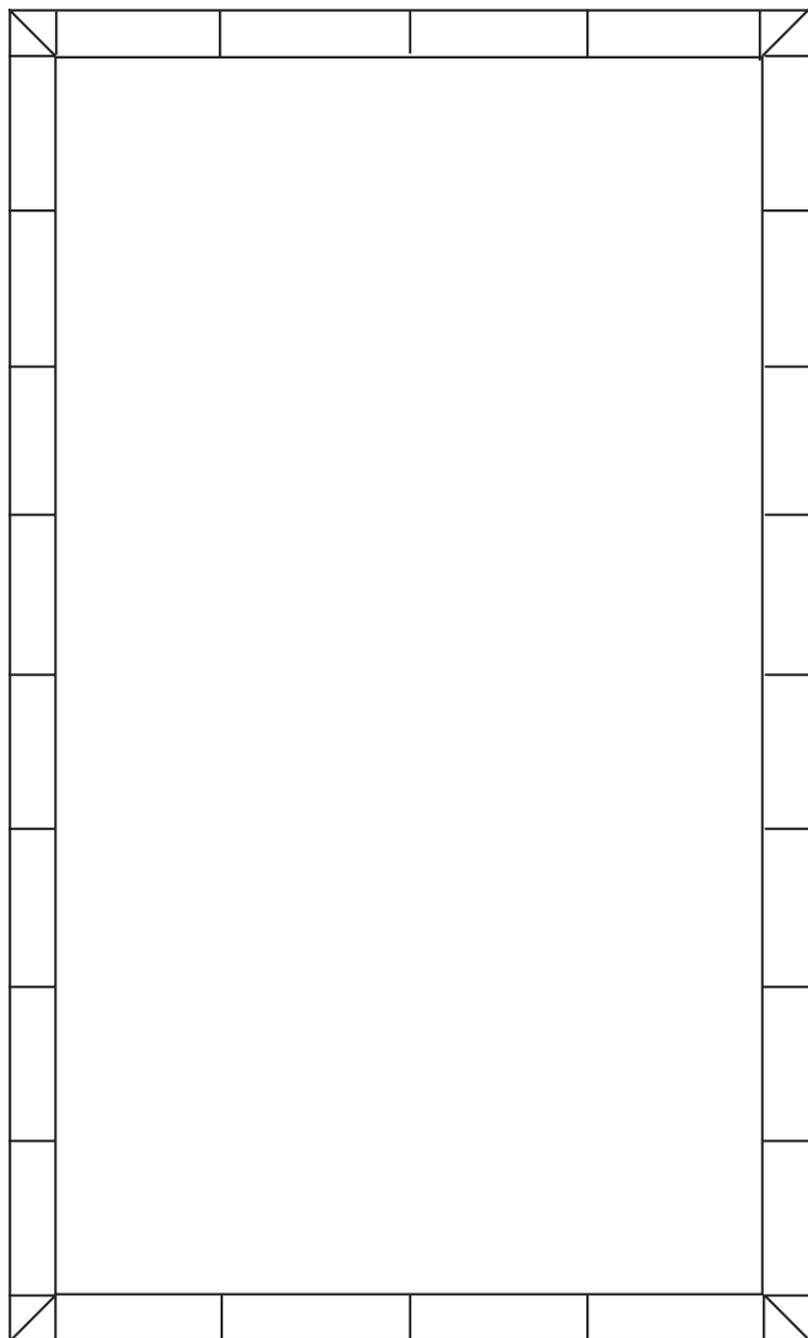


Use this to draw or write on and glue to the back of the Reading Hat.



Congratulations on your purchase of the Really Good Stuff® Reading Hat. This striped paper top hat is the perfect "thinking cap" for helping children to celebrate literacy. In this guide, we've included complete directions and how-to's, plus reproducible pages for use with the hats.

Included in this Really Good Stuff® set is:

- 32 Reading Hats
- This 4-page Really Good Activity Guide™ (including 3 reproducible activity pages)

Activities

Celebrate "Read Across America"

The National Education Association's (NEA) Read Across America is an annual reading motivation and awareness program. It calls for all children in every community across the country to celebrate reading on or around Dr. Seuss's birthday, March 2. The program provides resources and activities to promote reading all year long. In 2004 the celebration coincides with Dr. Seuss' 100th birthday!

The NEA website (www.nea.org/readacross/) offers a host of resources for use at home and in school for celebrating Read Across America. Website links include the following:

- Teachers' Top 100 Books for Children
- Kids' Top 100 Books
- Asian-American Booklist
- Spanish/English Bilingual Booklist
- 50 Multicultural Books Every Child Should Know
- Celebrity Book Picks

Happy Birthday Dr. Seuss!

Theodor Geisel, better known as Dr. Seuss, was born in Massachusetts on March 2, 1904, and died on September 24, 1991. In 2004, we celebrate Dr. Seuss' 100th birthday. Here are some quick ways to celebrate:

- Plan a Seuss-Read-a-Thon!
Put some Oomph in your Goomph! Have everyone prepare a Reading Hat, whip up some tasty Green Eggs and Ham (add food coloring to scrambled eggs), then have fun trying some of the Really Good reading activities here. They're Seuss-ational!
- Read aloud from some of your favorite Dr. Seuss books, or, invite children to each bring in their favorite Seuss book and take turns reading a

favorite line or refrain from each story.

- Dr. Seuss books are filled with rhyming words. Children can wear their hats and generate lists of rhyming words from the books. They can write their own silly sentences and illustrate their creative writing. You can use the reproducible frame on page 4.
- Invite the whole class to recite a Seuss book (or book refrain) together in your Reader's Theater. You can also divide the class in half and have each group take turns reading every other page aloud.
- Have children play "Seuss Charades." Glue or clip a paper bag to the back of an inverted Reading Hat (so it appears that the child is reaching into the hat). Use individual pieces of paper to jot titles of Seuss books on scraps of paper, then place the papers into the bag. Have children take turns reaching into the bag and acting out a scene from the book they chose. (Tip: If children need to, they can step behind a screen or door and peek at the book itself for inspiration.) The students in the class can then try and guess the book title by the antics pantomimed.

Play Who Am I?

1. Make and distribute copies of the reproducible Who Am I? (page 2) activity page. Note that the activity focuses students on book characters.
2. Invite children to use crayons or markers to color their Reading Hats.
3. Have children complete the activity page, then cut it out (reserving lists of questions) and glue to the back of the hats, if desired. (Tip: When selecting characters to profile, limit children to book characters they have met and shared together in class so everyone is familiar with the selection.)
4. To play, have each child work with a partner. Have partners take turns asking each other questions from the lists they saved.
5. Children must answer questions as honestly as possible.
6. Children must try and guess each other's character using the information recorded on the inside of the hats as a self-checking tool.

Play Guess My Book

This game is played just like the Who Am I? Game (Page 3) is played, but this time students are trying to guess book titles.

Who Am I?

Student's Name:

• Name of Book Character:

• My character is a:

man woman boy girl.
(circle one)

• Here is what my character looks like:

• My character is: funny, sad, frightened, angry, confused. (circle all that describe your character)

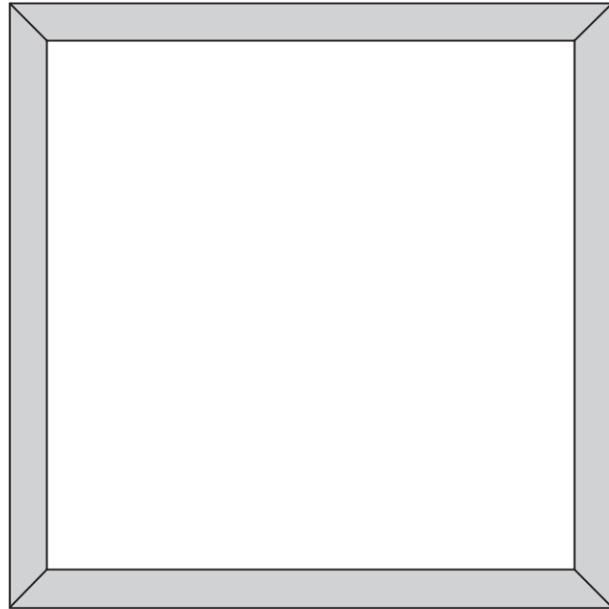
• Here is what my character likes to do: _____

• Here's my character's problem: _____

• When my character talked, here is something my character said: _____

_____ "

• My character is from this book: _____.



Guess My Book?

Student's Name:

• Book Title:

• Book Author

• My book is:

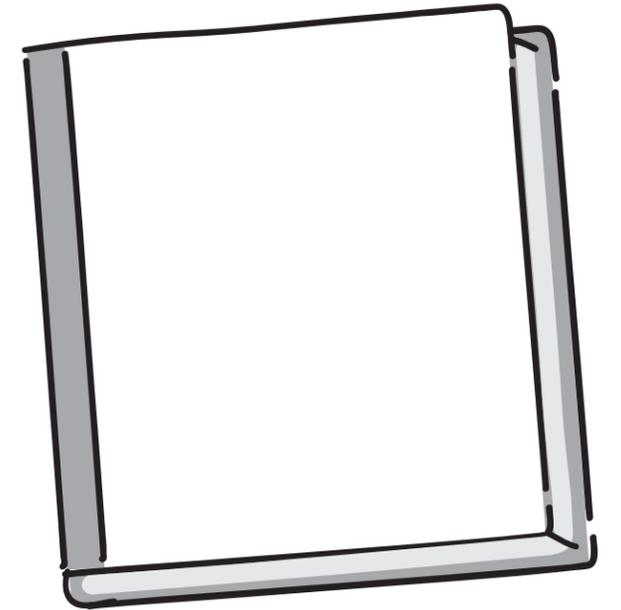
fiction nonfiction (circle one)

• My book is: informative funny sad scary (circle all that describe your book)

• The main problem in this story is: _____

• This problem gets solved when: _____

My favorite part of the book is: _____



Character Questions to Ask:

- What book is your character from?
- Is your character a man? A woman? A boy? A girl?
- What does your character look like?
- Is your character funny? Sad? Frightened? Angry? Confused?
- What does your character like to do?
- What is your character's problem?
- If your character talks, what is something your character says?

I am ready to guess! Is your book character _____?

Book Questions to Ask:

- Is your book Fiction? Nonfiction?
- Is your book informative? Funny? Sad? Scary?
- What is the main problem in this story (if any)?
- What problem gets solved in the book (if any)? How is the problem solved?
- What is your favorite part of this book?
- Who is the book's author?

I am ready to guess! Is your book _____?