



Scholastic *Action Book Collections*

Designed for struggling readers, *Scholastic Action™ Book Collections* offer independent reading practice with built-in skills activities to increase comprehension and language acquisition. Innovative, research-based components support students as they read, and provide structured engagement and accountability.

There are 12 *Action Book Collections*—four collections each for Upper Elementary, Middle School and High School. Each offers leveled, independent reading practice and content-area learning for extended-day programs, summer school, reading groups, or reading at home.

Each collection focuses on one of four subjects, and contains titles that are aligned to state and regional standards. The *Social Studies* and *Science* titles include nonfiction text features such as charts and maps that help students practice content-area reading strategies. *Classics* and *Language Arts* titles give struggling readers access to the literature and literary genres studied by their peers.

Instructional Content

Action Book Collections offer struggling readers independent reading practice combined with scaffolded skills support. Leveled books with embedded reading strategies and targeted vocabulary foster reading success.

Vocabulary

- In each book, targeted words and definitions precede the text to help students build essential concepts for understanding the book.
- Located at strategic junctures in the text, Heads Up! questions provide skills support, including drawing attention to important vocabulary words at their point of usage.
- Each book contains a glossary of high-utility vocabulary words, which are also bold-faced throughout the book.
- By completing exercises in the Reader's Notes activity booklets and from the Teacher's Guide, students are exposed to critical vocabulary and increase their understanding of targeted words.

Fluency

- In Upper Elementary collections, students read aloud their favorite passages using appropriate phrasing, expression, and intonation.
- Students build fluency by reading books that are matched to their individual reading abilities.

Comprehension

- Reader Tips at the beginning of each book give students comprehension strategies; one tip focuses on text structure, the other highlights a key comprehension skill.
- Heads Up! questions appear at strategic places in the text to scaffold students' reading. The questions give students a "heads up" regarding such factors as important background knowledge and comprehension monitoring.
- The program teaches students multiple comprehension strategies and skills, including cause/effect, main idea/details, sequencing, and summarizing.
- Students use graphic organizers, complete exercises, and discuss text structure to help them understand the book.

Instructional Design

Action Book Collections offer struggling readers independent reading practice combined with scaffolded skills support. Leveled books with embedded reading strategies and targeted vocabulary foster reading success. *Action Books* provide independent reader practice for after-school programs, reading groups, or any time teachers can engage struggling readers with leveled books. The program features:

- Leveled fiction and nonfiction books with motivating, age-appropriate topics that accelerate students to the next level and supplement the core program
- Teacher's Guides with lesson plans that support differentiated instruction for struggling readers and English-Language learners
- Student activities that reinforce skills presented in the books

Assessments

Action Books accelerate each student's reading by providing multiple readability levels to meet the varying needs of students. Teachers utilize the Teacher's Guide to provide the support students need to accelerate to the next level in each Collection. The *Monitor Student Progress* and *Accountable Talk* options suggest points for discussion with and between students about their reading. Teachers are able to assess students quickly with Grading Criteria from the Reader's Notes.

Motivation and Engagement

Scholastic Action™ Book Collections (grades 3-12) offer hi-lo books for independent reading practice. The books are leveled to match students to age-appropriate books so that they can read successfully. Nonfiction collections offer content-area reading to boost competency in social studies and science. Fiction collections feature classic stories and original fiction to expand students' cultural literacy and understanding of literary genres. The Reader's Notes and Teacher's Guides work together to support students and to provide structured engagement and accountability.

Differentiated Instructional Strategies

Action Book Collection's Teacher's Guides support differentiated instruction by:

- Meeting the needs of every student, whether using for direct instruction, independent reading, or in an after-school program.
- Providing intervention ideas and ELL support.
- Assessing students quickly with Grading Criteria for the Reader's Notes.

Each *Action Book Collection* features hi-lo books at multiple readability levels to meet the varying needs of students. The Lexile Framework® for Reading, a research proven system for measuring reading ability and text difficulty, was used to determine book levels with the program. Students are matched to text at their level so they can experience reading success. After checking students' responses to activities in the Reader's Notes, teachers intervene with skills and strategies support provided in the Teacher's Guides. Lesson plans also include strategies for English Language Learners.

Strategies for English-Language Learners

Action Books include support features for both struggling readers and English-Language learners. *Welcome to This Book* connects the book to readers' lives, builds background, and sets a purpose for reading. Graphic Elements include illustrations, time lines, maps, charts, photos, and diagrams, all with captions that help connect images to text. Target Words are high-utility vocabulary words that build essential concepts for understanding the book. Reader Tips suggest two reading strategies for getting the most out of the book. One focuses on text structure; the other highlights a key comprehension skill. *Heads Up! Questions* are strategically placed in the text to scaffold students' reading. The questions give students a "heads up" regarding important vocabulary words, background knowledge, text structures, reading comprehension, and self-monitoring. High-Utility Vocabulary and content-area vocabulary are

boldfaced throughout the text. These same words appear in the Glossary with definitions. In the Teacher's Guides, *Good for ELL* provides specific activities focused on language acquisition.

Strategies for Special Education Students

Action Teacher's Guides accommodate a variety of student needs and teaching opportunities. Each two-page lesson plan builds on the skills and strategies presented in the corresponding book, and help all teachers effectively support struggling readers. *Monitor Student Progress* and *Accountable Talk* options suggest points for discussion with and between students about their reading. *Check and Support* helps teachers intervene as necessary with skill activities. Comprehension instruction supports the key comprehension skill and activities in the Reader's Notes. Vocabulary activities facilitate the understanding of high-utility target words. Text Feature tips focus on a key text feature in the book, and Fluency Practice is included for Upper Elementary.

Home-School Connection

Students can take the books home and share them with family members. During conferences, teachers can discuss with caregivers their child's program participation and progress.

Professional Development

Scholastic Action Book Collections are supported by these *Scholastic Red* facilitated online courses:

- *Building Foundational Skills: Phonics, Word Study, and Comprehension, Grades 3-12*
- *Exploring the Lexile Framework for Reading, Grades 3-12*
- *Improving Reading Comprehension, Grades 3-5*
- *Improving Fluency, Grades 3-8*
- *Improving Decoding Skills & Strategies, Grades 6-8*
- *Middle School Literacy: Improving Text Comprehension*
- *High School Literacy: Comprehension Through Active, Strategic Reading*

Online professional development courses provide:

- Instant access to research and theory
- Video modeling of research-based practices
- Interactive simulations that allow for practice of skills and strategies
- Structured feedback, collaboration, and ongoing support
- Materials that can be immediately used in the classroom

 For additional information about *Action Book Collections*, visit www.scholastic.com/action.