

# Reading

Words open up the world to children, one letter at a time. Systematic, research-based reading instruction beginning at an early age helps students to comprehend written words and the sounds they represent, unlocking a vast world of knowledge!

## Class Telephone Book

One way to introduce nonfiction is to have students provide information about very important real people—themselves! This initial reading activity introduces students to a purpose for reading, specifically, finding information. Note: Before completing this activity, make sure to obtain parental permission for sharing personal information.



1. Give students a copy of the **Class Telephone Book reproducible (page 11)**. Help them fill out the personal information, including name, address, and telephone number. At the bottom of the page, invite each student to draw a picture of him- or herself.

### Inclusion Tip

If students do not like drawing or have less developed fine motor skills, they can attach a photograph, an illustration from a magazine, or computer clip art.

2. As a class, help students alphabetize all the last names. Emphasize that names in a telephone book are organized in alphabetical order by last names.
3. Copy the pages to make a class telephone book for each student. Bind the pages together with a construction paper cover and have students decorate it.
4. Distribute a book to each student in the class. Invite students to illustrate the covers and title the book, for example: *Ms. Heidi Helpful's 1<sup>st</sup> Grade Class Telephone Book*.
5. Invite student pairs to “read for information.” Ask them questions such as: *On what street does Ava Brooks live?*
6. Extend the activity by helping students practice making phone calls, memorizing their home phone numbers and addresses, or looking through a community directory.

# Class Telephone Book

**Directions:** Fill in the page.

My Name: \_\_\_\_\_

My Address:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



My Birthday:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



My Phone Number:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



Here is a picture of me!