

hello!

START HERE

1. Check your order

We've made every effort to pack your collection carefully. Please take a moment to make sure you've received everything you ordered.

CONTACT US WITHIN 2 WEEKS IF ANYTHING IS MISSING OR INCORRECT.

2. Get to know your collection

The following unboxing sheets will give you a brief introduction to each component of your collection.

IMPORTANT: Carefully read the teacher and student information in the front of each guide.

3. Browse the schedules

The *Suggested Yearly Schedule* is just that, a suggestion. Our materials are designed to adapt to your schedule, your teaching style, and your student's learning style.

The *Weekly Literature Schedule* is also a suggestion, but over many years, this approach has proven to be a great tool in helping students succeed and flourish.

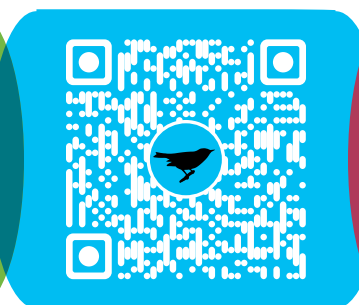
4. Explore our support resources:

Parent/Teacher Info



[blackbirdandcompany.com/
information-for-parents-and-teachers](https://blackbirdandcompany.com/information-for-parents-and-teachers)

Answer Keys



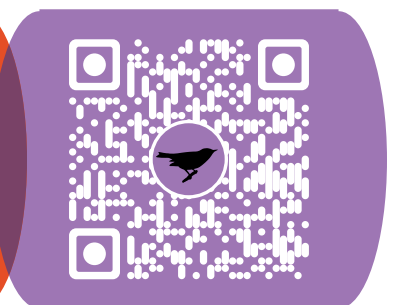
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Free Resources



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Videos



[blackbirdandcompany.com/
video-collection/](https://blackbirdandcompany.com/video-collection/)

Thank you for choosing a Grade Level Collection!

We've made every effort to pack your collection carefully. Please take a moment to make sure you have received everything included in your order.

Your 2nd Grade Collection contains the following items:

LITERATURE/WRITING • Earlybird Year Pack A

Fall Stories

- Student Workbook
- Barn Dance
- Scarecrow
- How to make an Apple Pie and See the World
- Apple Picking Time
- Earl the Squirrel

Winter Stories

- Student Workbook
- Snowballs
- Brave Irene
- The Mitten
- A New Coat for Anna
- Snow

Leo Lionni

- Student Workbook
- Frederick
- The Biggest House in the World
- It's Mine!
- Alexander and the Wind-Up Mouse
- Swimmy

Robert McCloskey

- Student Workbook
- Make Way for Ducklings
- Blueberries for Sal
- Lentil
- One Morning in Maine
- Burt Dow, Deep Water Man

RESEARCH WRITING • Taxonomy of Living Things: Introduction to Animals

- Student Workbook
- Miniature Animal Assortment
- About Amphibians
- About Reptiles
- About Fish
- About Birds
- About Mammals
- About Insects

CREATIVE WRITING • Storymaker: Farm Tales

- Student Workbook
- Setting and Character Flash Cards
- Miniature Object Set

VOCABULARY • Operation Lexicon: Word Collecting

- Student Workbook
- Clothesline Kit
- The Word Collector (Peter H. Reynolds)
- The Word Collector (Sonja Wilmer)
- The Boy Who Loved Words

OBSERVATION • Calendar of Days: 2nd Grade

- Calendar of Days Journal
- Whiteboard Daily Journal
- Whiteboard Markers
- Whiteboard Eraser
- Weather
- The Cloud Book

PLEASE CONTACT US WITHIN 2 WEEKS IF ANY OF YOUR ITEMS ARE MISSING OR INCORRECT.

Now that you've checked your package, let's learn about each item...



The following information will help you become familiar with each piece of your collection.

Literature Discovery Guides: Earlybird Year Pack A

Inside each student guide is introductory information and instructions for the teacher. Please read the 3 pages of teacher material carefully. Within this material you will discover tips, suggested schedules, and more.

Each guide is divided into 5 sections that are each tied directly to one of the storybooks, plus a 6th section that has a culminating discussion and project ideas. Get to know the layout of the guide. Along the way, each student guide provides prompts to lead your student into the journaling process. Our curriculum is designed with a built in “Teacher-Mentor” to support each step of the student’s journey.

Ultimately, when it comes to language arts learning, much of the exceptional work students accomplish will be subjective in nature and tied to their ideas. As we value the ideas of the student—their discoveries from reading, their observations and challenge them to write these ideas well, the outcome, over time, is that literacy skills soar.



Taxonomy of Living Things: Introduction to Animals

There are two types of things in the world: living and non-living! Everything you can imagine is one or the other. Taxonomy is the science of sorting it all out. At its basic level, taxonomy identifies, names, and classifies all living things in a systematic way.

Every species has a common name, but also a unique two-part scientific name situating it on the tree of life. In the pages ahead you will get a glimpse of the amazing order that is intrinsic to the natural world.

Over the course of 13 weeks, students will be guided into the work of learning about the animal kingdom, journaling their discoveries along the way. This opportunity to research will not only help them to gain knowledge, but also to springboard into the realm of non-fiction, narrative writing.

Included in the front of the journal is the instructional material. Read through this material carefully. Next, flip through the first week of the journal to familiarize yourself with the daily work of your student. Week 1 is an introduction to the science of classification. After that, students will be focusing on one class of animals every two weeks. Scan through Weeks 2 and 3, and you will notice that on the first week, the reading is tied to comprehension and note taking activities, and the second week is an opportunity to write about an animal. This ongoing, consistent opportunity for practicing constructive writing skills will help students gain confidence in their ability to communicate.



Storymaker: Farm Tales

When staring at the blank page, it is often the first sentence that’s the most difficult to tackle. Storymaker, complete with story starters, setting & character flash cards, and object prompts, gives the support needed to create an exciting story hook that will get the writing started! An engaging hook—the very first sentence—conquers writer’s block with the swish of a pencil.

Over the course of 20 weeks (once weekly), as students craft their hook, they will develop confidence and creativity that will carry over into all other schoolwork. With *Storymaker*, students will learn to write (in the words of Hemingway) “One true sentence...,” and the rest will follow.

Instructions For Teachers are included at the beginning of each student guide. We have also included a space for the teacher to make note of Weekly Edit Reminders that will help the student improve mechanics, spelling, and grammar. One of the most important habits to form while using Storymaker is for the student to read their own story after writing, this is the first step in learning to self-edit.

Creative journaling is an indispensable part of language arts. Beyond its academic significance, it provides an opportunity to develop fundamental skills, and the writer’s unique voice.



Operation Lexicon: Word Collecting

Finding just the right word can be a mighty struggle for students and seasoned writers alike. *Operation Lexicon: Word Collecting* is a golden opportunity for students to explore the wonder of words, face the struggle head-on and overcome! Each week, as words are collected, meaning is teased out, and application is played with, students will discover the astonishing potential of a singular word, replacing fear with freedom. All instructions are in the front of the student guide.



Calendar of Days: 2nd Grade

How many days left until summer? Learn the answer to this important question! Daily journaling of numbers, weather, seasons, months, and weeks creates a sense of anticipation for each new day. This yearlong unit is designed to begin each school day, building confidence and independent observational skills into your students.

At the front of the journal is a single page of instructional material. Read through this material carefully. Following this page are sample pages to give you an idea of what is expected.

This set includes: Calendar of Days Journal, Whiteboard, Dry erase markers, *Weather*, and *The Cloud Book*.



