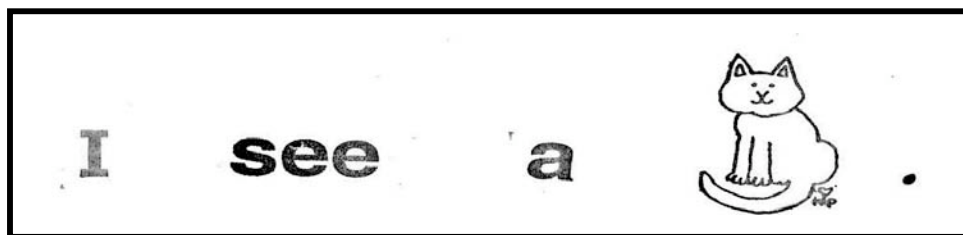


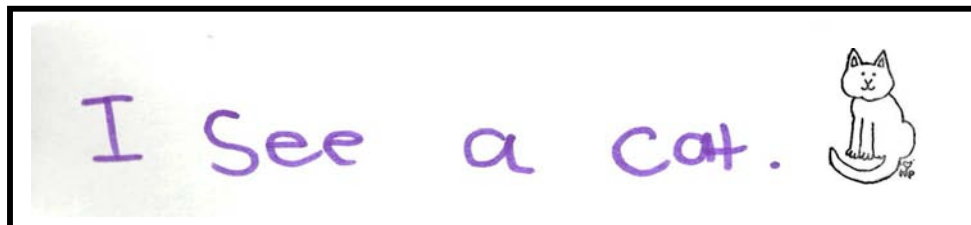
Stamp and Read Books Allow Children Practice to Building High-Frequency Sentence Patterns



Early in the year, children make "stamp and read skinny books" to learn the concept of a word. Books with simple repetitive patterns allow children to **experience using words to make sentences** and "magical memory reading." A collection of animal stamps provide choices for sentence building in these 4-page books. **Teach for fluency with high-frequency word phrases.**

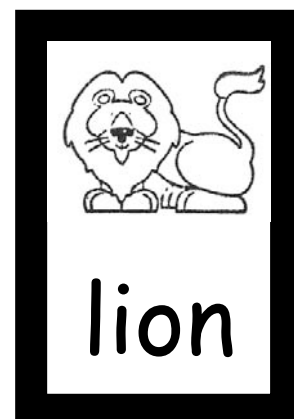
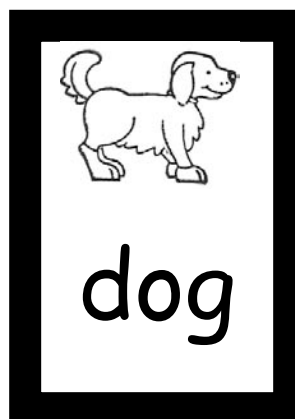
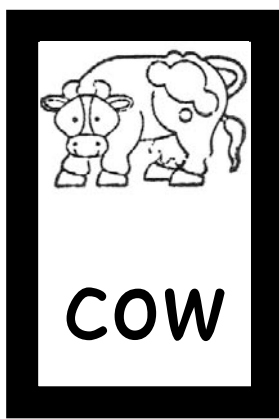
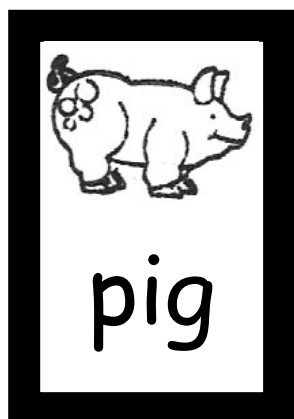
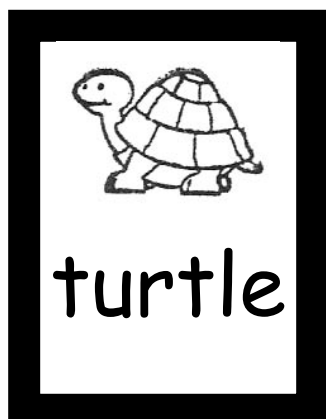
I see a _____.

This is the _____.



As children begin doing more writing, we once again **use these familiar sentence patterns to build fluency.** Now they practice writing "I see a ____." on five separate pages. Each time children write this sentence the neurological connections get stronger and handwriting becomes more automatic. They always end these books with "the end", and then an adult adds the "I can read. Listen to me." stamp.

Add Laminated Word and Stamp Cards to Your Stamp and Read Skinny Book Center: Children Love to Write the Words!



Nellie Edge High-frequency Word Stamps, and Wooden Animal Stamps by Melissa & Doug, Inc. (with Photo Essay and complementary templates for making word and stamp cards) are available for members online at nellieedge.com.

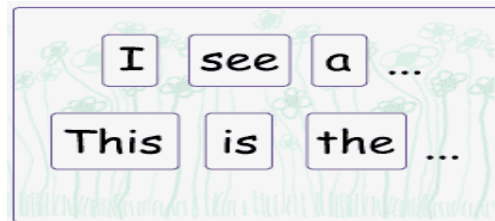
Favorite Literacy Center: Stamp and Read Skinny Books

Tips on Using Stamps:

- Cover the high-frequency word stamps and **"I can read. Listen to me."** stamp with clear contact paper so it is easy to keep clean. (Note: Children who learn **"I Can Read Colors"**, *A Nellie Edge Read and Sing Big Books™* the beginning of the year, will proudly sing, sign, and read these sentences from memory!)



- **Organize stamps** in a tackle box.



- Prior to making this writing center available, **always check that the ink pads are working** (and not dry!).
- **Have parents pre-make the skinny books at the beginning of the year** (50-100 at a time). Ask one parent volunteer to always keep it

stocked with different colors of books of 4 pages. (Later in the year, children may cut and staple their own "really cool books" of however many pages they need...)

- **Keep a box of wet wipes available** for cleaning off hands and stamps.
- Consider defining the work space for each child with a laminated mat.
- **Provide one stamp pad for each student** or teach children to work in pairs.

They learn to locate and share stamps with each other.



After Consistent Modeling, Children Work Independently and with Cooperation: We Nurture Healthy Interdependence!



- Provide sets of cards with the animal stamp and corresponding word to encourage children to label their stamped image.
- Show samples of children's "Stamp and Read Books" as models and inspiration.
- Teach the jivy "the end" chant early in the year and

expect children to end their authored books with "the end" spelled conventionally (a.k.a. "adult spelling" or "book spelling"). Invite children to read the words with confidence and fluency.

- If the children choose to print their own words, let them know that the expectation and goal for this center is independent "adult spelling" of high-frequency "heart" words.
- Ask parents to gift your kindergarten animal stamps and non-toxic stamp pads.
- For more information about teaching "heart" words and using high-frequency word stamps visit our website and online book store at nellieedge.com



Take Time to Celebrate Young Authors!

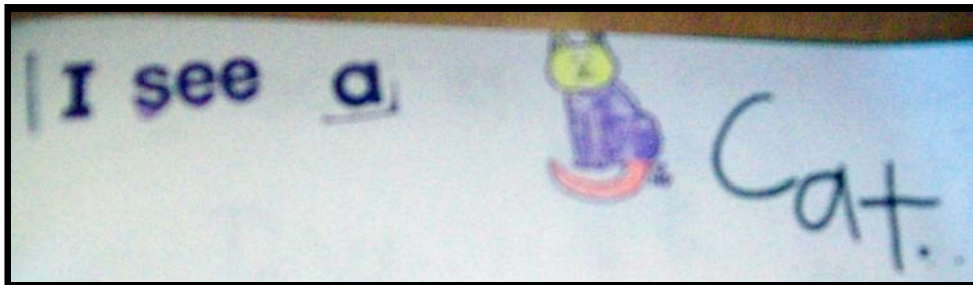
Remind children to read their books to an adult once they have finished. The adult can stamp and sing ♪ **I can read. Listen to me** ♪ for the smiling child. (This is the last page of the "Nellie Edge Read and Sing Big Book™ *I Can Read Colors.*")

- **Celebrate each child's reading success!**
 - *"How did you learn to read those words?"*
 - *"Wow! Isn't it exciting to be able to read?"*
 - *"Amazing! You read the whole book. What a reader!"*
 - *"You must feel really proud of yourself as a reader!"*



Remember to bring the "finished work" basket to the circle at the end of the literacy center rotations to celebrate young authors!

- During center rotations, or circle time, you can briefly share newly-made books with the class: Katie Nelson says, "Cammi finished her book. Let's give her a 'WOW'" or "a silent cheer!" This motivates children to keep making more books and begin seeing themselves as "readers", "writers", "authors", and "illustrators"! Kindergartners are eager to join the literacy club!



We want to honor children who finish their work independently.