

CESA 6 Media Center - Start-To-Finish Books

Start-to-Finish is a high-interest, controlled-vocabulary series with innovative supports built-in that get your struggling students reading. Multiple reading formats and support options give teachers tools to propel students past their challenges and move on to learning. Carefully-chosen book content is compelling to older students and curriculum-connected titles help students acquire knowledge as they learn to read. Each Start-to-Finish title comes to you in three formats: a paperback book, computer book and audio book.

Book Layout

- Font is larger for clear focus on text
- Illustrations explicitly match action in text
- Wider line spacing helps readers focus
- Computer layout matches paperback layout
- Book covers have mature appearance
- Color computer book illustrations add clarity
- Chapters are manageable in one session
- Chapter and page numbers are clearly identified
- Computer book feels like traditional paperback book
- Includes quizzes after each chapter
- Tracks and reports student progress
- Encourages repeated reading with scaffolded support
- Lets students decide on pacing through a chapter
- Reinforces key words with extra pronunciation support
- Places bookmarks automatically

Text Highlighting

- Links written and narrated words
- Helps student pay attention to text
- Maintains fluent reading
- Enables independent reading for students

Electronic Support

- Enables independent reading for all students
- Enlarges illustrations for better clarity
- Permits the learning of print conventions

Professional Narration

- Makes literature accessible to non-readers
- Reflects ethnicity or dialect of story
- Follows text highlighting in the computer book
- Identifies speakers in dialogue
- Models proper intonation and expression
- Models correct reading rate
- Emphasizes print conventions such as italics
- Accents new words and names
- Motivates students to keep reading
- Shows immediately that the text makes sense

Blue Library Computer Book
(Screen excerpt)

And so it was, little by little, that I made up my mind to take the life of the old man, and rid myself of his hideous eye forever.

I know you think that I am a madman, but madmen act impulsively. A madman would have rushed in without a plan and tripped himself up with some silly mistake. I proceeded carefully, making sure at every step that the old man suspected nothing. I was never kinder to the old man than during the whole week before I killed him.

"Hear you nothing? I heard that you still

Paperback Books
Encourage independent reading

Narration with Highlighting
Supports fluency and word identification skills

Part 3: The Map

Jupiter looked at the parchment and said, "Oh, no! How I'm going crazy, too."

"It's like magic," I said to Legrand.

"It's a map," he said. "You can only see it for a while. Then it fades away. But when you hold the parchment near the fire, the map comes back again."

"How is that possible?" I asked.

Legrand said, "It's some kind of secret ink that can only be seen when it's near heat."

Audio Books
Professional narration increases comprehension (available for all titles)

Gold Library Computer Book

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Title	Item No.	Approximate Reading Level
Adventures of Huckleberry Finn	15669	2-3
Against All the Odds: George Washington & the Fight for American Independence	19005	4-5
Alcatraz, The Rock	15670	2-3
Ali: The Greatest	14311	2-3
Big Ben is Dead	14318	2-3
Crossbow Mystery	15666	2-3
Earthquake!	14839	2-3
Edgar Allan Poe Collection	14310	2-3
Flo-Jo: Story of Florence Griffith Joyner	14313	2-3
For Liberty: Story of the American Revolution	19009	4-5
Frederick Douglass: Hero for All Times	14307	2-3
Grave Robber	15667	2-3
Hamlet: Prince of Denmark	19011	4
Harriet Tubman: Moses of Her People	14306	2-3
Home Run Heroes	14312	2-3
Hurricane!	14840	2-3
Jack London Collection	14308	2-3
Jackie Robinson and the American Dream	14845	2-3
Japanese Americans: Prisoners at Home	14836	2-3
Jim Thorpe: Athlete of the 20th Century	14844	2-3
Liddy and the Volcanoes	14841	2-3
Mark Twain Collection	14309	2-3
Night of the Loch Ness Monster	14316	2-3
Red Badge of Courage	15668	2-3
Remembering Sweetness: Walter Payton and the Bears	19007	4
Rosa Parks: Freedom Fighter	14305	2-3
Secret of Old Mexico	14317	2-3
Space Voyage: Hitching a Ride Through the Solar System	19003	4
Story of Anne Frank	14837	2-3
Treasure Island	15669	2-3
Tuskegee Airmen	14838	2-3
Wilt Chamberlain: NBA Giant	14846	2-3

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Adventures of Huckleberry Finn

Sometime before the Civil War, Huck Finn is the motherless son of a derelict father. Fleeing abuse, Huck leaves home in Hannibal, Missouri, and joins forces with Jim, an adult slave who is trying to avoid being sold to owners in the Deep South. By misadventure, Huck and Jim find themselves on a raft drifting south down the Mississippi. As they float into the heart of slavery, Huck develops new respect for Jim and realizations about slavery and human nature. After wild, terrifying adventures, the pair is rescued.

Adventures of Tom Sawyer

Mark Twain captures a boyhood summer on the Mississippi River, complete with haunted houses, rogue bandits, hidden treasure and schoolyard crushes. It is a simple, rural, dreamlike world, seen through the eyes of a boy who may have been based on the young Mark Twain himself. Tom Sawyer is an adventuresome prankster whose good-hearted and unpretentious nature is infectious and timelessly appealing. Even at the darkest moments in the story, affection and wit permeate the pages of *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer*.

Against All Odds - George Washington & the Fight for American Independence

Just about everyone has heard of George Washington, but few people know very much about him. Who was this man who commanded the American army during the war for independence and later became America's first President? What was he really like? How did he become the one indispensable figure in the birth of the United States? And how could Washington fight for "liberty" when he himself owned slaves?

Alcatraz, the Rock

In this story, Nick and the kids are on Alcatraz Island in San Francisco Bay. The park ranger there has asked Nick to help complete an environmental impact report. During their stay, Jeff and Mandy witness the attempted murder of a man from China who is attempting to sneak into the United States on a fishing boat. Jeff and Mandy save the man from drowning and learn that the boat is filled with illegal fireworks and drugs.

Ali - The Greatest

Is the reading intervention for students who cannot hold a book or read text independently, and need to improve word attack skills, fluency, and comprehension. The world's most famous athlete ever was heavyweight boxer Muhammad Ali. From the moment young Ali wandered into a Louisville, Kentucky youth boxing program, the sport became his life. An Olympic champion at age 18, Ali rose quickly to the top.

Big Ben is Dead Mystery

Offers access to literature letting the student share experiences with the rest of the class in both guided and self-selected reading. The British Museum in London has asked Nick to consult on a mummy that the museum has acquired from Egypt. Upon opening the mummy, the scientists have found plant seeds and they wish to learn whether or not the seeds can be germinated.

Call of the Wild

The tale is told through the eyes of a dog, Buck, who starts out his life as a domesticated animal - the loyal companion of a country gentleman. When gold is discovered in the Klondike, however, Buck is cruelly stolen from his comfortable life and sold into the harsh life of a sled dog in the frozen north. What follows is an incredible adventure. Faced with every imaginable travail, Buck comes into his own as a creature of savage instinct, great courage, and fierce loyalty.

Crossbow Killer

This set of CD-ROM, book and audio tapes are for struggling students. They are high interest, low vocabulary and support students as they improve reading skills. Contains a computer book on CD, a paperback book and an audiocassette. In this story, Nick has agreed to assist the rangers in Yellowstone Park. Someone has introduced Lake Trout into Yellowstone Lake and they are eating the native Cutthroat trout. But something even more serious is going on in the park.

Earthquakes

Students are excited and motivated to read this age-appropriate, high-interest tale. Student's progress can be watched with built-in quizzes and reports. The history of earthquakes is brought to life in exciting tales of people surviving famous earthquakes. The science of earthquakes comes to life in clear, compelling descriptions.

Edgar A. Poe Collection

Is the reading intervention for students who cannot hold a book or read text independently, and need to improve word attack skills, fluency, and comprehension. Contains *The Gold Bug* and *The Murders in the Rue Morgue*.

Flo Jo - Story of Florence Griffith Joyner

Is the reading intervention for students who cannot hold a book or read text independently, and need to improve word attack skills, fluency, and comprehension. In 1988, Florence Griffith Joyner set two records in women's sprinting that still stood more than ten years later: a world record in the 100-meter dash that she set at the Olympic trials in Indianapolis, and a world record in the 200 meters that she set at the Olympic games in Korea.

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For Liberty - Story of the American Revolution

From the Boston Tea Party, in 1773, to the British surrender at Yorktown, in 1781, For Liberty is a fictionalized journey through colonial America and the American Revolution.

Follow our hero, David Brady, a printer's apprentice in Boston who becomes a soldier in the Continental Army, as he shows readers what life was like during colonial times.

Frederick Douglass - Hero for All Times

This book asks, "What is a hero?" and answers with the life of Frederick Douglass. A great human rights advocate of the 19th century, Frederick began life as a slave in Maryland.

Gifted and eager, he was beaten at a young age for learning to read but continued to educate himself in secret.

Grave Robber

This set of CD-ROM, book and audio tapes are for struggling students. They are high interest, low vocabulary and support students as they improve reading skills.

Contains a computer book on CD, a paperback book and an audiocassette. In this story, a cancer research center in St. Louis has asked Nick Ford to find seeds from native grasses in Missouri. His search takes Nick and the kids to a pioneer cemetery where Ken and Jeff learn that someone is digging up old graves. The tombstone of every disturbed grave marks the death of a man in 1862.

Hamlet - Prince of Denmark

This book is a narrative retelling of the play that is often considered to be Shakespeare's masterwork. Set in medieval Denmark, Hamlet tells the story of a young prince who is caught between a seeming obligation to avenge the murder of his beloved father and the doubts and questions of his own conscience.

Harriet Tubman - The Moses of Her People

Is the reading intervention for students who cannot hold a book or read text independently, and need to improve word attack skills, fluency, and comprehension. This book documents an amazing woman's struggle to end American slavery. Harriet Tubman was born in Maryland, a slave because her mother was a slave. Her father was a free black man. Harriet defied slavery early when, in her teens, she tried to help another slave escape his master.

Home Run Heroes

Is the reading intervention for students who cannot hold a book or read text independently, and need to improve word attack skills, fluency, and comprehension. Explaining why hitting a home run is the hardest challenge in sports, the book tells about five all-time home run hitters, beginning with their early lives: Babe Ruth, Roger Maris, Hank Aaron, Mark McGwire, and Sammy Sosa.

Jack London Collection

Is the reading intervention for students who cannot hold a book or read text independently, and need to improve word attack skills, fluency, and comprehension. Contains: Love of Life and To Build a Fire.

Jackie Robinson & the American Dream

Tells the story of the life of Jackie Robinson and how he became the first black baseball player in the major leagues.

Japanese Americans - Prisoners at Home

Students are excited and motivated to read this age-appropriate, high-interest tale. Student's progress can be watched with built-in quizzes and reports. Based on actual experiences of Japanese Americans during World War II, brings to life many important pieces of Japanese American history; among them, No-No boys, the courageous 442nd regiment, and the Civil Rights act of 1988. This story also stresses the importance of learning from the mistakes of history.

Jim Thorpe - Athlete of the 20th Century

Tells about the life of Jim Thorpe. Born in a cabin on the reservation in Oklahoma, he rose from obscurity to become the most famous athlete in the world. This book tells the incredible and touching story of perhaps the most gifted athlete who ever lived. Born in a cabin on a reservation in Indian Territory (Oklahoma), Native American Jim Thorpe rose from obscurity to become the most famous athlete in the world.

Liddy & the Volcanoes

Students are excited and motivated to read this age-appropriate, high-interest tale. Student's progress can be watched with built-in quizzes and reports. Following the adventures of Liddy and her father, your students will learn the basics of plate tectonics, and will become familiar with some of the history and science of volcanoes.

Mark Twain Collection

Is the reading intervention for students who cannot hold a book or read text independently, and need to improve word attack skills, fluency, and comprehension. Contains: The Celebrated Jumping Frog of Calaveras County, Curious Dream, and A Story from Life on the Mississippi.

Night of the Loch Ness Monster Mystery

Offers access to literature letting the student share experiences with the rest of the class in both guided and self-selected reading. In this story, Nick has agreed to install a dinosaur exhibit at the Loch Ness Monster Visitors' Center in Scotland. When Nick and the kids arrive at Loch Ness, they help save an elderly man who has had a heart attack after seeing the monster. Nick and the girls take the man to the hospital while Jeff and Ken "stake out" the Loch.

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Red Badge of Courage

This set of CD-ROM, book and audio tapes are for struggling students. They are high interest, low vocabulary and support students as they improve reading skills. Contains a computer book on CD, a paperback book and an audiocassette. This realistic Civil War novel probes the mind of a youth named Henry in his first few days of battle. A Union infantryman, Henry rides a roller coaster of doubt, exhilaration, terror, and other emotions.

Remembering Sweetness - Walter Payton & The Bears

In thirteen years as a running back for the NFL Chicago Bears, Walter Payton (1954-1999) established himself as possibly the greatest football player ever. Even though he was a small man as pro football players go, he made himself into a dazzling and ferocious runner that no defender wanted to tackle. In the course of his career, Walter not only broke almost every record for a football running back, he also became one of the most loved and admired players in the game.

Rosa Parks - Freedom Fighter

Is the reading intervention for students who cannot hold a book or read text independently, and need to improve word attack skills, fluency, and comprehension. People say that Rosa Parks refused to yield her seat to a white man on a segregated Montgomery, Alabama, bus in 1955 because she was "tired." This book explains what that "tiredness" really was: a fierce "tiredness" of segregation.

Secret of Old Mexico Mystery

Offers access to literature letting the student share experiences with the rest of the class in both guided and self-selected reading. In this story, Jeff and Ken are invited to the Yucatan jungle to help on the archeological dig of a Mayan temple. Someone on the dig team wants to steal valuable artifacts and smuggle them to the United States to sell on the black market.

Story of Anne Frank

Students are excited and motivated to read this age-appropriate, high-interest tale. Student's progress can be watched with built-in quizzes and reports. Anne Frank was only thirteen years old when she started writing the diary that would become the most famous book ever written about World War II.

Treasure Island

This set of CD-ROM, book and audio tapes are for struggling students. They are high interest, low vocabulary and support students as they improve reading skills. Contains a computer book on CD, a paperback book and an audiocassette. Young Jim Hawkins' quest begins when dying pirate Captain Flint leaves a treasure map at the coastal inn run by Jim's poor mother. Jim shows the map to the local doctor and squire, who arrange a voyage to find the treasure.

Tuskegee Airmen

Students are excited and motivated to read this age-appropriate, high-interest tale. Student's progress can be watched with built-in quizzes and reports. This historical fiction story follows Henry Gooding through his training and into brave battles overseas. Despite the poor way they are treated at home, Henry and the other pilots of the 99th fight brilliantly for America during World War II. Their courage in the face of prejudice and war, and their incredible skill in the air make the Tuskegee airmen an important chapter in the history of the struggle for equal rights.

Wilt Chamberlain - NBA Giant

Tells about the life of basketball great Wilt Chamberlain, who was the first real sports superstar. Follows Wilt as he grows from a awkwardly tall boy into the greatest basketball player the world had known.