

Charlotte Mason-Style
Lesson Sheets
for the
McGuffey
and Other
Readers
etc.





During my 27 years of homeschooling, nothing has contributed more to our stability and success than the McGuffey Readers.

While I am a great believer in delight-directed learning,

there has to be a balance. Children need to have tools in their hands in order to read and find information. Then they need to be able to communicate what they are learning so they can apply it and share it for the benefit of others.

The McGuffey's make it all so easy. They are graduated and systematic. They are interesting and engaging. They are excellent and challenging.

They are especially helpful for struggling readers and work wonderfully with an intense phonics training program.

As a learner progresses, the complexity of sentence structure, excellent vocabulary, and ex-

ceptional subject matter make these readers the perfect tool for preparation for college and life-long learning.

There are so many ways these can be used, since they are open-ended and adaptable to almost any learning style or situation.

Personally, I have had great success using these readers with the approaches suggested by Charlotte Mason:

- Copywork
- Narration
- Dictation

One of the cheapest ways I found to do this has been to grab a 50 cent composition book for each child. For beginning readers, I have plotted out specific places for each category, using a highlighter to help them with penmanship. For the middle-range readers, I have numbered and made spaces for each requirement. Older children who are learning mostly on their own have



been given a list of requirements that they have been responsible for completing on their own.

While this method has been affordable and effective, it has also been time-consuming and labor-intensive, especially considering all of the other demands on my time.



This is why it occurred to me to create a series of notebooking pages which would streamline the process and make prep time shorter. Of course, after I had gone to all the trouble creating everything for my own family, I just knew I had to share it with others.

So, here are the pages I created so you can use them for your own children! I am including pages for each stage in the McGuffey learning process. There are areas on these pages for copywork, narration, and dictation.

In keeping with Mason's ideas that younger learners should not be frustrated with written narration, I have included spaces for drawings instead. A

learner can either draw directly on the page in the space provided, or can draw on a separate index card (either standard or large) and glue it in the proper place.

These are not meant to be workbook pages where there is only one “correct” answer and the learner becomes a slave to “fill in the blanks.” While children need structure, they also need to have the room to express the ideas and skills they are gathering as they see fit.

This encourages individual expression and creative thinking. It also helps keep children engaged and enthused as they make each lesson their own.

Don't use McGuffey's?

These pages could easily work with almost any reader, or with any novel, short story, or poetry selection, for that matter.

Keeping Track

I actually currently have five children using the McGuffey's, all at different levels. This means I need to have some system in place so in order to minimize confusion and streamline my preparation

process.

First of all, I have printed and copied multiple pages for each level and placed them behind dividers in a two-inch, three-ring binder.

For another thing, I have put these sheets together in lessons and then placed them in the individual binders which I keep for each child. In this way I don't have to try and search and assemble pages every time.

It is my prayer you will find these a great blessing!

Please note:

I created these pages with ink conservation in mind. That is why the colors are primarily pink and blue, since the yellow color is the one that is used the most and runs out first. I have also included pages in grayscale to make it easier to print them out using only black ink, which is usually the larger cartridge in a typical printer.

One could conceivably print out a set of sheets and then take them to an office store and have them copied to make it easier on the budget.

Charlotte Mason-Style

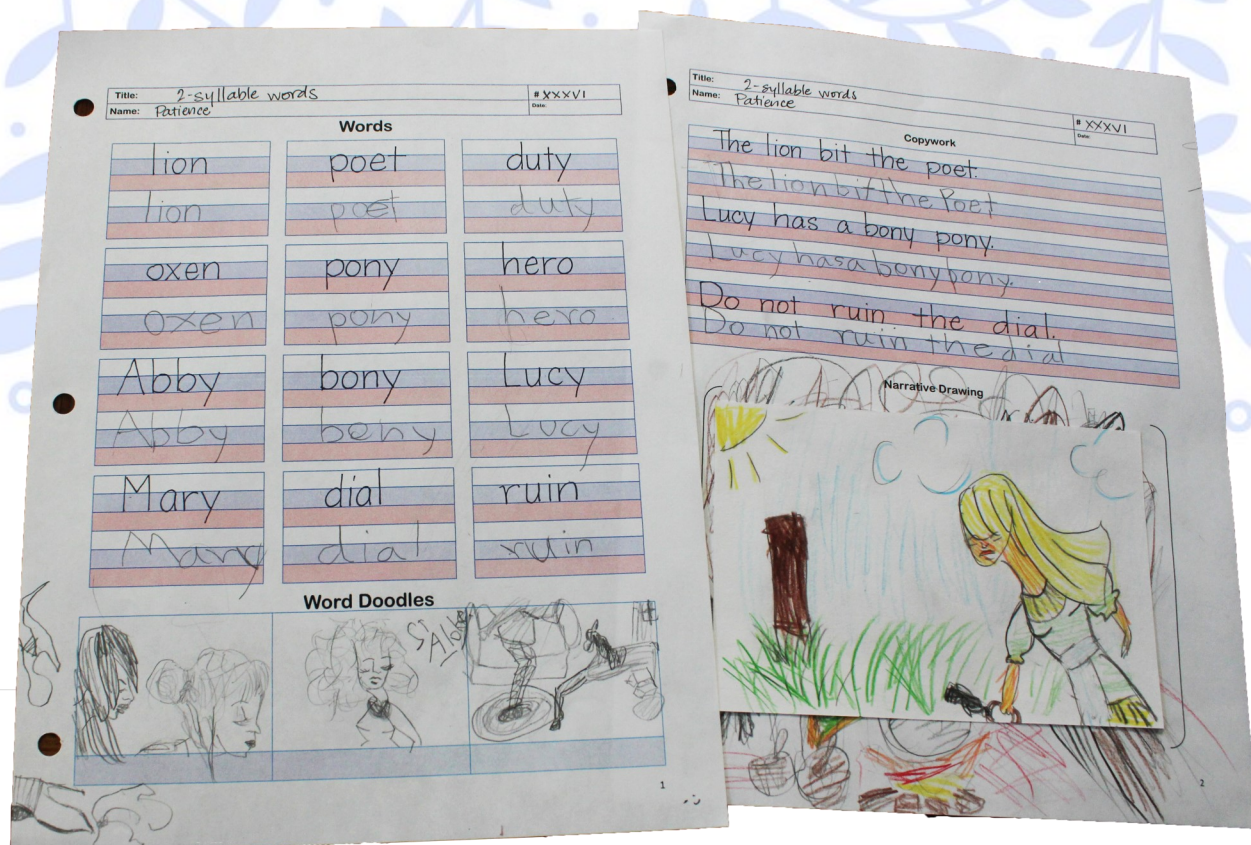
Lesson Sheets

for McGuffey Readers,
etc.

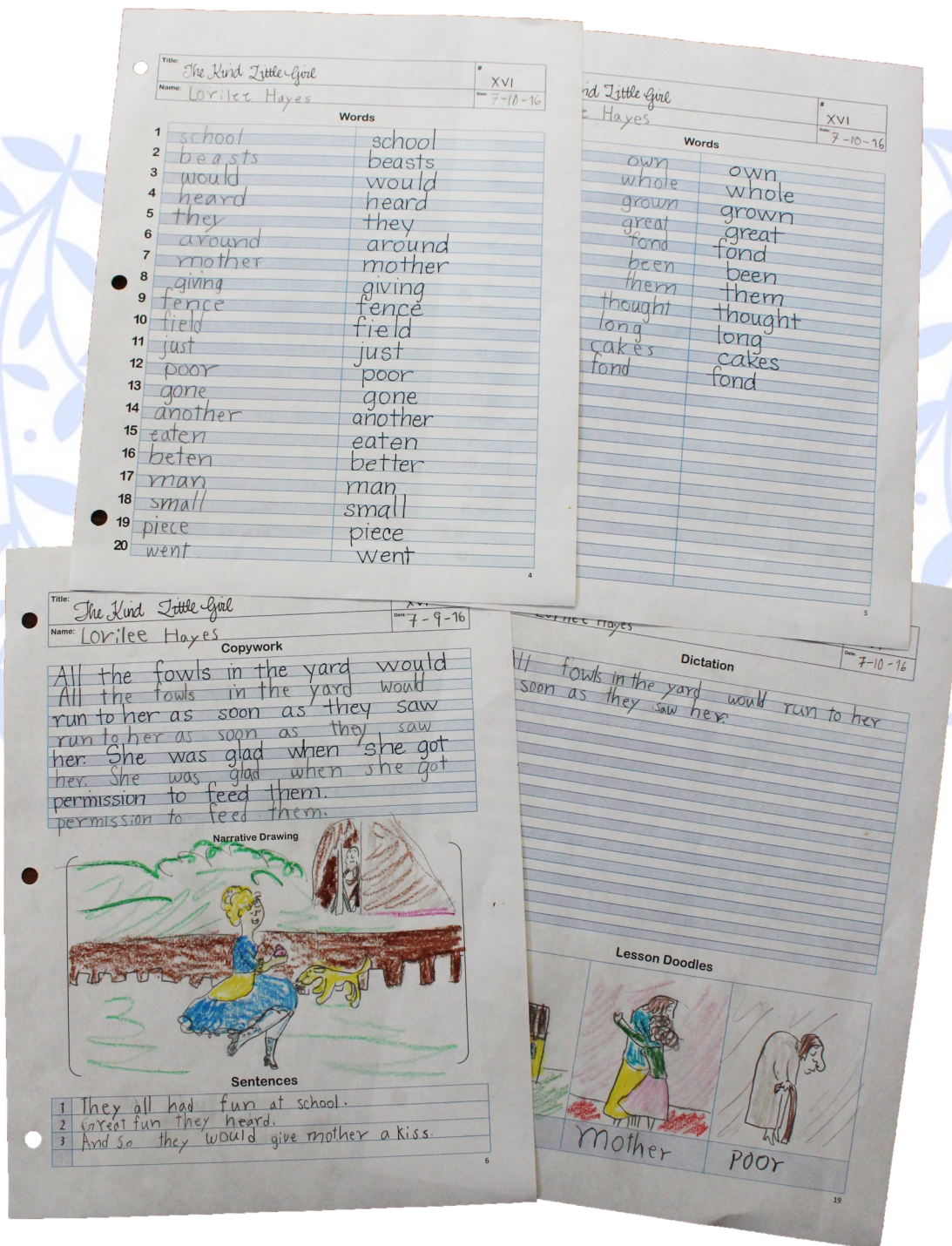


Here is a page you can
print out and use for the
spine of a three-ring
binder.

Here is a gallery of examples
to help explain further.



This set was completed by our beginning reader.
As you can see she is very creative and loves
drawing outside the lines! She is the one who
calls the red area "lava."



These pages were done by my miracle reader. Six months ago she was feeling shut down and helpless, and her younger sister seemed to be ahead of her, which made it worse. But we worked and worked, and now she is feeling really pumped! She absolutely loves these sheets.

Title: My Mother # 52
Name: Olivia Hayes Date: 7-10-16

Copywork

- "Open into folly straying, he grieved her,
Oft' he heard her for me praying,
And the quivering lip and smile,
Whispering 'God will keep my child.'"
- "She was spiritual then, and brightly,
Fondly on my father leaning,
Sweet she spoke, her eyes shone brightly,
And her words were full of meaning;
Now my humm' leaf, decayed,
I perhaps have made it fade."
- "But whatever ill befalls her,
Mother, in whom all I share;
In any sickness which befalls her,
And beside her kneel in prayer.
Best of mothers! on my heart
Lean thy head, and sink to rest."

Title: My Mother # 52
Name: Olivia Hayes Date: 7-10-16

Narration

This poem was about a son (or as I guess) and his mother. Though he gave her trouble, and often heard her praying for him and weeping, he loved her dearly. She used to be young and full of energy, lively and with much to say. But now she was quiet and weary, with many wrinkles. He thought, perhaps, she had caused it. And yet when she was young and old, he would be there to take care of her and love her, as a son. She, as long, was the best of all mothers. He would kneel beside her to pray, and share in all of her joys. And when it came time for her to go, he would be there for her.

Title: North American Indians # 52
Name: Elaine Hayes Date: 7/9/16

Narration

Today I read a short elation on Native Americans. The writing is quite lamentable and that which sets forth is the sorrow of a lost people and nation. It talks of how on the crowded streets we now walk, once a field or forest grew, and a silent hunter walked. That maybe a small village of dark-skinned people lived out their native lives. Sometimes a son would disobey his father and a mother would give birth. The same sun shone above their heads and grew their crops, burnt their skin and warmed their bodies. That star that bleaches your hair bleached their tresses. The moon that lights your bedroom hung over their graves. That light and love but time disregarded. They lived and loved but time disregarded. The baby wails, and the earth covers them up while their offspring with a subservient gait. The pilgrim brought hope to the world but also signaled the end of a people and a way of life. Native Americans were eradicated from the land by the very people who ran from persecution. While we are worshippers we also give many peoples freedom, and I hope the sins of our country's past are never blotted out, but rather learnt from.

Title: North American Indians # 52
Name: Elaine Hayes Date: 7/9/16

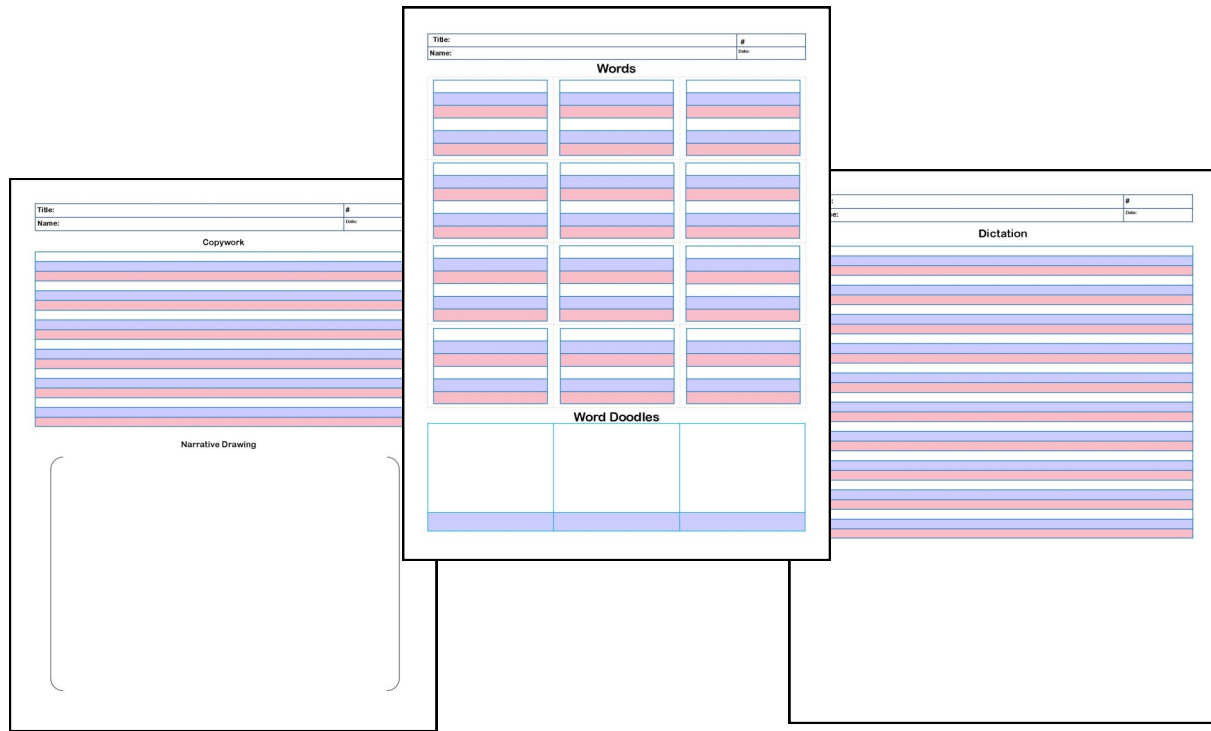
Sentences

1. He was an uneducated child.
2. It is not always better to be fearless, but to be courageous.
3. Conquerors always find the conquered unworthy.
4. I would hate to be the progenitor of a worthless nation.
5. Even the animals among us shall lay 6-foot deep.

Copywork

The Indian of fallen glories and lion beguiling, the hero of the touching ballad, the hero of the tale is gone, and his degraded offspring who upon the soil where he walked in majesty, remind us how miserable is man when the shadow of the conqueror is on his neck.

The advanced girls filled in these pages. These are avid readers and writers who have been using the McGuffey's for seven years. You will notice there are no longer any drawings on these pages.



First Pages



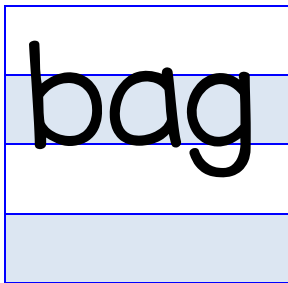
These pages are for those who are just starting out.

Provided are lines which are colored to aid in the proper placement of the parts of letters, as in the example on the left.

The blocks are tailored according to the needs of the first lessons in the McGuffey's Pictorial Primer (original edition—the brown ones).

Along with the lined areas, there are also numerous areas for doodles and drawings, something my children greatly appreciate!

Second Pages



These pages are for those who might be reading OK, but they need a little help writing properly.

Provided are lines which are colored blue to aid in the placement of the parts of letters, as in the example on the left.

I like to hand write the words from each lesson, on the left for right-handed learners, on the right for left-handed learners.

The blocks are tailored according to the needs of the lessons in the McGuffey's First Reader.

Along with the lined areas, there are also numerous areas for doodles and drawings.



Third Pages

These pages are for those who are reading and writing pretty well, but they still need some prompting.

I like to hand-write the words from each lesson on the left for right-handed learners, and on the right for left-handed learners (see example below).

The blocks are tailored according to the needs of the lessons in the latter part of the McGuffey's First Reader and the first lessons in the McGuffey's Second Reader.

Along with the lined areas, there are also numerous areas for doodles and drawings, although less than for the earlier pages

anything	
everything	
weather	
handle	

	anything
	everything
	weather
	handle

The image displays four sample pages from a workbook, arranged in a 2x2 grid. Each page has a header with 'Title:' and 'Name:' fields.

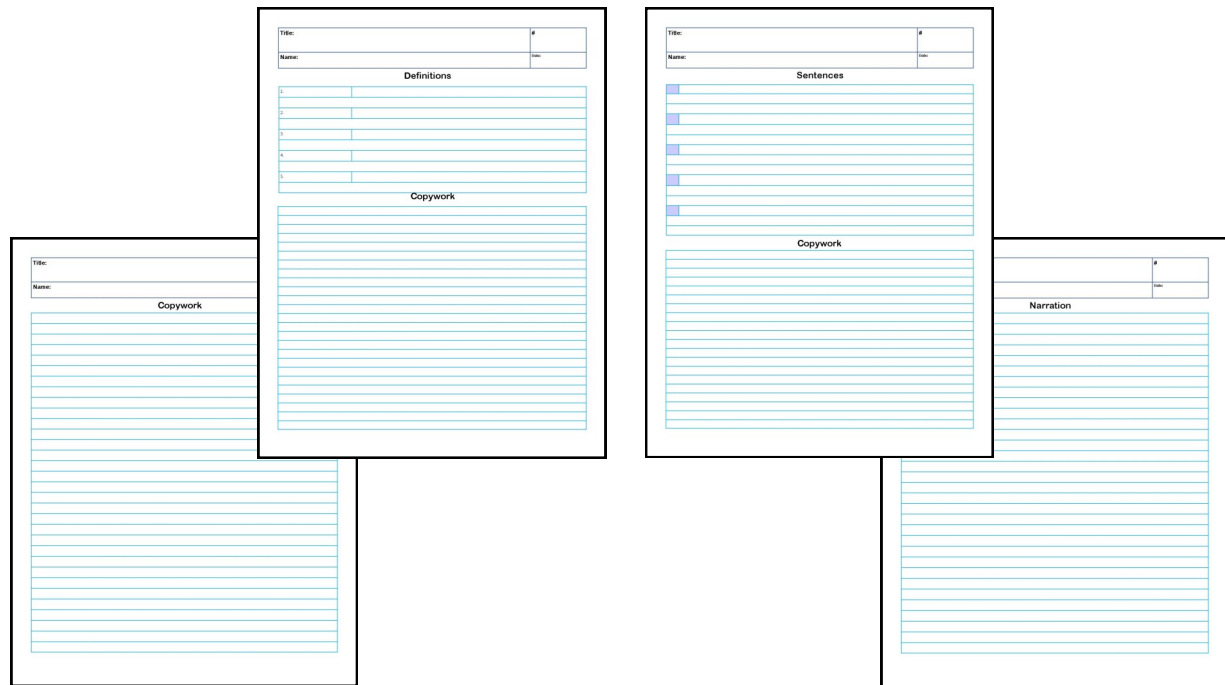
- Top Left Page:** Features a 'Copywork' section with horizontal lines for writing, followed by a 'Narrative Drawing' section with a large bracketed area for a picture.
- Top Right Page:** Features a 'Words' section with a table of 10 rows and 3 columns, followed by a 'Word Doodles' section with a 2x3 grid, and a 'Sentences' section with 5 horizontal lines.
- Bottom Left Page:** Features a 'Words' section with a table of 10 rows and 3 columns, followed by a 'Word Doodles' section with a 2x3 grid, and a 'Sentences' section with 5 horizontal lines.
- Bottom Right Page:** Features a 'Narration' section with 10 horizontal lines, followed by a 'Lesson Doodles' section with a 2x3 grid.

Fourth Pages

Here are some pages for learners who are capable of tackling lessons independently.

Included are places for doodles on one page, and more spaces for sentences on the next. These can be used however necessary.

There is still room for a picture narration, but this page can be substituted with a more full narration page from the fifth set.



Fifth Pages

These pages are for those who are operating at a high school level. The work is done independently and without doodles or drawings. Of course, if necessary, one could add in a page or two from the fourth pages set as well.

The definitions page was inserted for those who have gone into the sixth (revised) reader which does not include a words list with each lesson.

Title:	#
Name:	Date:

Words

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Word Doodles

Title:	#
Name:	Date:

Words

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Word Doodles

Title:	#
Name:	Date:

Words

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Title:	#
Name:	Date:

Words

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Title:	#
Name:	Date:

Words

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Title:	#
Name:	Date:

Words

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Title:	#
Name:	Date:

Dictation

[illegible]

Narrative Drawing

[illegible]

Title:	#
Name:	Date:

Words

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Sentences

Title:	#
Name:	Date:

Words

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Sentences

Title:	#
Name:	Date:

Words

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Word Doodles

Title:	#
Name:	Date:

Words

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Word Doodles

Title:	#
Name:	Date:

Words

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Sentences

Title:	#
Name:	Date:

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Sentences

Title:	#
Name:	Date:

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Word Doodles

Title:	#
Name:	Date:

Words

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Word Doodles

Title:	#
Name:	Date:

Words

Word Doodles

Sentences

Title:	#
Name:	Date:

Words

Word Doodles

Sentences

Title:	#
Name:	Date:

Words

Sentences

Title:	#
Name:	Date:

Words

Sentences

Title:	#
Name:	Date:

Narration

Lesson Doodles

Title:	#
Name:	Date:

Definitions

1.	
2.	
3.	
4.	
5.	

Sentences

Doodles

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