

Secrets of the Symbols

The Secrets of the Symbols has been designed for teachers to use with older students who are struggling with reading and writing skills. Start at the beginning of the skill book and use it to develop the phonemic awareness skills that many struggling readers so desperately need (pages 1-5).

Read pages 7 and 8 with your students as you discuss the mystery of history (hieroglyphics) and how to learn the secrets of our symbols (sound/letter relationships).

Have the children see how many of our symbols (sound/letter relationships) they know as you have them complete pages 9 and 10. (See the note on the next page regarding pages 9 & 10.) Then introduce the phonics lessons, one at a time, and guide the student to practice applying these skills as you take them through their basal reader or leveled reading books.

Secrets of the Symbols Cards

Teach the students the Mummy Rummy Game, page 6. Encourage the student to play this at home with their friends, parents, or by themselves, to review the sound/letter relationships.

Typographical Errors in First Printing

1. Table of Contents should read Suffix "Review".
2. Page 14 - Top of Page should read "Command: Complete the crossword puzzle with the correct (remove "aw") words from the list at the bottom of the opposite page."
3. Page 16 - Pink rectangle should read "ea = /ee/ + /uh/".
4. Page 31 - In word box at the top - replace the word **rode** with the word "wood".

IMPORTANT Notes:

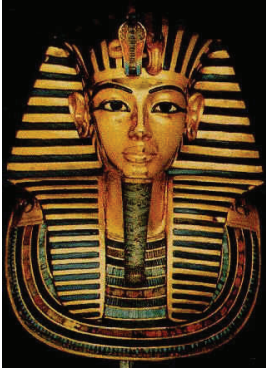
The Secrets of the Symbols Graphic Organizer

The Secrets of the Symbols Graphic Organizer on the inside front cover is missing two sound/letter combinations. Do not tell the students which sound/letter combinations are missing. Guide them to compare this graphic organizer to the classroom poster. See if they can discover that the /ay/ column is missing the /aigh/ letter combination – as in the word **straight**. Tell them that this is just an example of what you expect them to do as they figure out the other sound/letter combination that is mysteriously missing from this poster and from the graphic organizer on the inside cover of their Secrets of the Symbols book.

Duplicate the attached **Solve the Mystery** sheet, cut it in half and distribute it to each student. Have them use it as a bookmark to help remind them to be on the lookout for the missing sound/letter combination that has been stolen by the enemies of the Pharaoh. When a child does solve the mystery, reward them with the opportunity to go to the Magic Penny Web site, click on the picture of King Tut, type in the letter combination, and receive their reward.

Sound/Symbol Organizer/Assessment pages 9-10

Page 9 has two answer boxes for the following sounds: /ch/, /e/, /y/, /i/, /oo/, /ea/, /ie/, /ough/, and /s/. These sounds are reproduced on page 10 with three answer boxes. The reason for this is so you can have the children fold the book back and only look at page 9 to answer those questions. Then, later, as you work through the book with them, you can have the children fold the book so that only page 10 is visible. This way the children can challenge themselves as they generate the first two and then the third sound for these letter combinations.



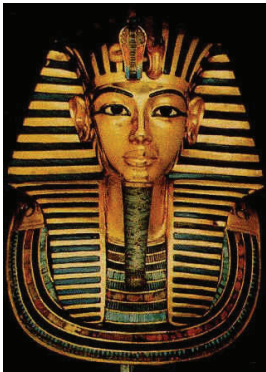
Solve the Mystery

One of the Secrets of the Symbols is missing from the Pharaoh's Scroll that is displayed upon a wall within your scribe training room. The enemies of the Pharaoh have taken it to the enemy king.

Help your Pharaoh. Discover the secret that is missing and receive your reward.

After you have discovered the stolen secret, follow these steps:

1. Go to www.magicpennyreading.org
2. Click on the the likeness of King Tut.
3. Enter the stolen letter combination and the Pharaoh will reward you!



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