

Power Up! Building Reading Strength - Level 4 Power Pack

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EDITION - 1st

Grade Level Sixth Grade
 Seventh Grade
 Eighth Grade

Readability Level 4.5-5.5

Course / Content Reading

List Price: 975

Wholesale Price 975

The features of each book or program were developed by the publisher and do not reflect the opinion of the Kentucky State Review Team Kentucky State Textbook Commission or the Kentucky Department of Education.

Content Power Up! Building Reading Strength is a comprehensive, leveled reading program designed to reach middle-school students who have yet to master the reading strategies and skills they need to make literacy progress. The program empowers struggling readers to experience success through the use of high interest/low readability paperback books (fiction and nonfiction), corresponding audiocassettes, Teacher's Resource Binders, student workbooks with corresponding Teacher's Editions, and a web-based technology component. The books consist of a variety of genres and are divided into chapters. Each book has been carefully developed to maintain a specific readability within each level, progressing up in reading level and page count (Level 1: 2.5-3.0; Level 2 : 3.0-3.5; Level 3: 3.5-4.5; Level 4: 4.5-5.5).

Power Up! Building Reading Strength - Level 4 Power Pack

Includes 30 copies of the Workout Book, 30 Power Up! on the Web subscriptions, a Workout Book Teacher's Edition, one 5-pack each of 8 Paperback books, 8 books on Audio Cassette, 8 books on CD-ROMs, and a Teacher's Resource Binder with 2 Posters for each level, packaged in a handy backpack on wheels.

Student Experiences Each level of the program teaches the essential reading strategies, writing, word analysis, and phonics skills found on standardized tests and in national standards. Themes (2 per level) commonly used in middle-school and aligned to character education are woven throughout the student materials to provide a rich context for learning. Powerful topics such as responsibility, relationships, and resolving conflicts help make content relevant and engaging to students. Program author Dr. Roger Farr has incorporated the successful Think-Along approach as a key element in the Power Up! program. Think-Along icons embedded within the Paperback Books prompt students to answer questions that encourage them to think as they read. Students are provided with a variety of genres.

The Workout Books include a variety of attractive strategy, vocabulary, word skills, and writing pages that enrich the reading experience and support the student. The activities build essential skills, such as reading comprehension, and meet the individual needs of ESL students. The Paperback Books on CD ROM highlight the text on the screen. Students can read independently or with assistance. The lessons and activities on the Web are aligned with specific Workout lessons and activities. Students receive practice and reinforcement on concepts and strategies in different media to insure understanding. The hands-on interactive activities provide immediate feedback for further motivation.

Assessment A variety of assessment options are available. Formal assessments include the placement test, the end of selection and book tests and the end of theme test. Suggestions for student self-assessment, informal and portfolio assessment are

provided, as are writing rubrics to evaluate the various writing activities. In addition, teacher reports available online provide information about whole class performance as well as that of individual students.

Organization

Power Up! can be used in a variety of settings. Some schools may use Power Up! as a whole class intervention or remedial reading program, while other schools might use it as the instructional component of a literacy intervention pull-out program. In yet other schools, Power Up! might be used as a supplemental program for students who need additional instruction within a regular reading or language arts classroom. The breadth and depth of student materials and teacher support allow the program to be tailored to fit individual situations.

Resource Materials

Power Up! provides teachers with everything they need to implement the program and with the flexibility to accommodate students' individual skill levels, learning styles, and experiences to ensure no student is left behind. One easy-to-use Teacher's Resource Binder for each level of the program demonstrates how the components work together and provides ideas for using the program flexibly in a wide variety of teaching situations. Lesson plans and other teacher support materials are included, with a multitude of ideas for implementing the teaching of all components. Think-Along blackline masters are provided for each paperback book, as is a wide array of additional masters, including graphic organizers and masters to support learning the general reading strategies, literary and nonfiction strategies, word analysis, and phonics. An introduction to each theme and suggestions for presenting the strategy, vocabulary, workbook selection, skills, paperback book, and writing activities are also included.

Gratis Items to be provided and under what conditions

No - N/A.

Available Ancillary Materials

Research Data and Evidence of Effectiveness

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Research Available

YES - provide information below

Power Up! focuses on the same research-based strategies and skills in reading and writing as those identified in the Standards for the English Language Arts compiled by the International Reading Association (IRA) and the National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE). Power Up! Provides the continued systematic reading instruction called for by the IRA and the National Middle School Association's (NMSA) joint position paper entitled Supporting Young Adolescents' Literacy Learning. The program aligns with reading language arts curriculum standards commonly implemented by states and districts and measured by all major standardized tests. This close alignment with standards, curricula, and assessments helps ensure that students receive instruction in the strategies and skills that they need most and in the same important areas as their classmates.

Additional research information is available by accessing:

<http://www.harcourtachieve.com/Pages/articles/ERIApowerup.pdf>

<http://www.harcourtachieve.com/Pages/articles/PowerUpWEB.pdf>

Overall Strength and/or Weaknesses

Disclaimer: Comments on the strengths and/or weaknesses of each book, material or program were written by members of the State Textbook/Instructional Materials Review Team and reflect their opinions. They do not reflect the opinions of the State Textbook Commission nor the Kentucky Department of Education. In addition, the State

The placement test is more like a state assessment. However, the rest of the assessments are not always in that format. Nevertheless, there are a number of on-going varied assessments that teachers can give and students will not be bored.

The teacher manual/resource book is great for presentation ideas as well as extensions. There are short suggestions for reteaching. Additional resource suggestions are given in the teacher workout book.

Additional readings and read alouds are also given.

Content is very "kid friendly" and was written with the students in mind. There are relevant real life issues.

There are some other content connections made to other areas simply by virtue of the stories used within the series.

However, there are no real explicit connections deliberately made to other content areas on a regular basis.

2

Reading strategies are very well outlined. There are lots of opportunities in the student workbooks for students to reflect while reading and make predictions.

The writing to demonstrate learning and writing to learn pieces are very common in the workbook.

Really good series!

AUDIENCE: STUDENT MATERIALS

Some connections with other core subjects simply by virtue of the relevant reading content. However, there is no overt attempt to make connections.

FORMAT

Well organized and flows well.

Vocabulary is well outlined in each lesson for each book.

Very nice graphics and illustrations. Beautiful presentations of materials, very "kid friendly."

Lots of cultural diversity seen in the presentation of materials and texts.

The books will get a little worn after use, they are thin paperbacks.

ANCILLARY MATERIALS

All resources are labeled and are easily accessible to teachers.

Very diverse methodologies of getting information to students.

There are sections for helping the ESL students understand various portions of the English language. They are found in the Teacher Workout Book. However, they simply give suggestions about how to tell the students about idioms and figures of speech in English.