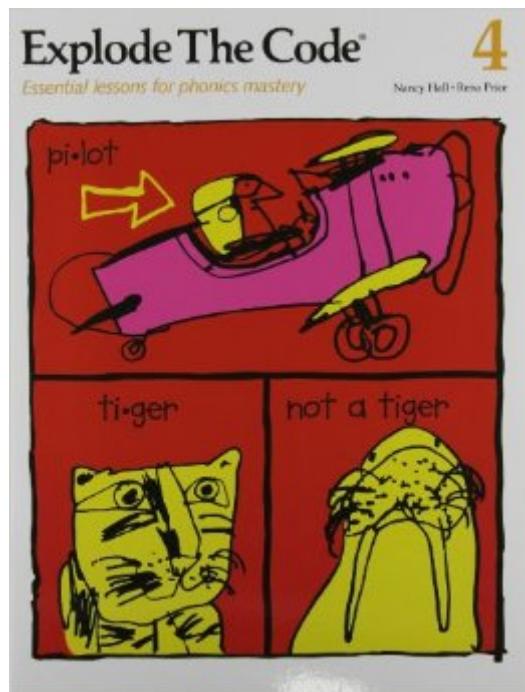# Explode The Code/Book Four

Synopsis

Explode The Code provides a sequential, systematic approach to phonics in which students blend sounds to build vocabulary and read words, phrases, sentences, and stories. Frequent review of previously

Book Information

Paperback

Publisher: Educators Pub. Service; 5/16/90 edition (June 1990)

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ISBN-10: 0838814638

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Product Dimensions: 0.2 x 8.2 x 11 inches

Shipping Weight: 7.2 ounces

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars See all reviews (44 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #26,396 in Books (See Top 100 in Books)   #43 in Books > Reference > Words, Language & Grammar > Study & Teaching   #140 in Books > Education & Teaching > Schools & Teaching > Instruction Methods > Reading & Phonics   #468 in Books > Textbooks > Education

Customer Reviews

I have a B.A. in English education, and an M.A. in education. But I am learning from this book. I can spell fairly well because I can see in my mind how the words are spelled, but I never knew that there was actually good reasons for the ways most words are spelled. My kids are not naturally good at spelling. Oh, my goodness, no. Last year, the things I had to try to read... yikes. Even though they are in 4th- and 5th-grades, I decided to start them on Book 1 of Explode the Code... I had started using the books with my youngest, a kindergartener, and thought that the older two could benefit from the detailed, repetitive practice that forces the writer/reader to stop and THINK about HOW the word is written and WHY it is written that way. And they have benefitted! I have started another new spelling curriculum that seems to have helped them, too, so I won't say that this has single-handedly worked miracles for them, but it has certainly been helpful. As I said, even I am learning.The first pages of a chapter help the learner break down the words into separate phonemes. Every word has a silly, scribbly picture hint. The next few pages of the chapter require the learner to start writing the words themselves with minimal assistance. Then two pages have the words used in context with other sentences that use similar words, so the reader has to be careful to sound out the words

correctly to choose the correct sentence that matches the picture. On the last page, students write the word themselves.In Book 4, students learn to read/write multi-syllable words.

I have used the ETC series--starting with book 1--for my homeschooled 5 and 6 year old. The 5 year old is now about halfway through Book 2, and my 6 year old just started Book 4. I also use the teacher's guides, which cover 2 books for every issue (Books 1 & 2 are in one book, and so on). Like other reviewers, I like this series for a number of reasons. For starters, I'm not going to lie--I like that it is easy. You can open up the workbooks and use them (or copy the pages if you choose)--no cutting, pasting, laminating, or other prep work that is easy to fall behind on. The lessons are in the same format as the previous books, and so everything is predictable and easy for the student to grasp. Book 4 covers compound words, -ful, -ness, -ing, -ed, and -est endings, open and closed syllables, y endings, and digraphs ai, ay, ea, ee, oa, and ow (some carryover from book 3, but in a good way). There is one thing that I do not like about this book--the letter "a" is shown as it is usually in typed writing (like on this page) rather than the simpler way that most people hand write it. The other 3 books show it in plain writing, and I am disappointed that this one does not. I know that kids are going to have to learn to read it the other way eventually, but for young students who are just learning to read and write, this can be confusing. My daughter is doing ok, but when rewriting the words it takes an extra recognition step to realize that the "funny a" is the letter "a" and to write it correctly. My 5 year old would not do well with this and so I am glad she isn't in this book yet--she confuses this type of "a" for the letter "g".

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