



Meet the Superkids

ZB Zaner-Bloser

Seven Girls, Six Boys, and One Super Dog



Each Superkid has an animated song, paired with a special motion.

The Superkids and their dog are a lively cast of 14 relatable characters, whose adventures and activities keep students motivated and engaged as they learn to read and write with *The Superkids Reading Program*.



In the first semester of kindergarten, *Meet the Superkids*, students are introduced to a new character—or three, in the case of Tic, Tac, and Toc—a unit at a time. Each character begins as a mnemonic device to learn a new letter-sound (C/c/k/ is for Cass) but quickly becomes a friend with a unique personality and special talents and interests.

When all of the Superkids end up in the same class in second grade, they gain a splendid new friend in their teacher, Ms. Blossom.



An Engaging, Cohesive Framework for Learning

The individuality of the Superkids draws students to one or more specific characters, and these bonds last throughout the K–2 program. Their charming, captivating stories keep students consistently motivated and eager to find out what happens next.

The ongoing adventures of the Superkids provide an engaging and cohesive framework for

- building concept knowledge, vocabulary, and comprehension.
- connecting to informational text.
- teaching gentle life lessons for character development, called Lasting Lessons.

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Cass

Cass loves to cook casseroles in the kitchen with her cat, Coconut. Cass also likes to read, swim, and run. But “cooking up concoctions” is her favorite kind of fun!

In one Lasting Lesson, Cass learns that no matter what grade they are in, boys and girls can play together. That’s a good thing, because some of her best friends are boys!

Fast stats about Cass

Unit of Character’s Introduction: Unit 1, kindergarten

Letter-Sound: Cc/k/

Song Motion: Pretending to stir a pot



Oswald

Oswald is a talented artist who loves animals. He likes to read about them, write about them, and especially draw them! He knows about the octopus, the ocelot, oxen, and otters. He even makes up his own interesting animals like the kookaloo, the ott-ott, and the crid.

Oswald has a little brother, Ben, who appears in some of the *Superkids* stories. One of the lessons Oswald learns is that teasing others can be very hurtful.



Fast stats about Oswald

Unit of character's introduction: Unit 2, kindergarten

Letter-sound: Oo/o/

Song Motion: Making an "okay" sign



Golly

Golly is the super dog of the group. He lives at the gas station with Gus and Gert. Golly loves to sniff and whiff all the lovely smells all around him, most of all garbage! And Golly loves to roll around in cool green grass.

Golly steals lunches and cupcakes from the Superkids, but he gives them all big, wet kisses too. He has a BIG change during the second-grade year.

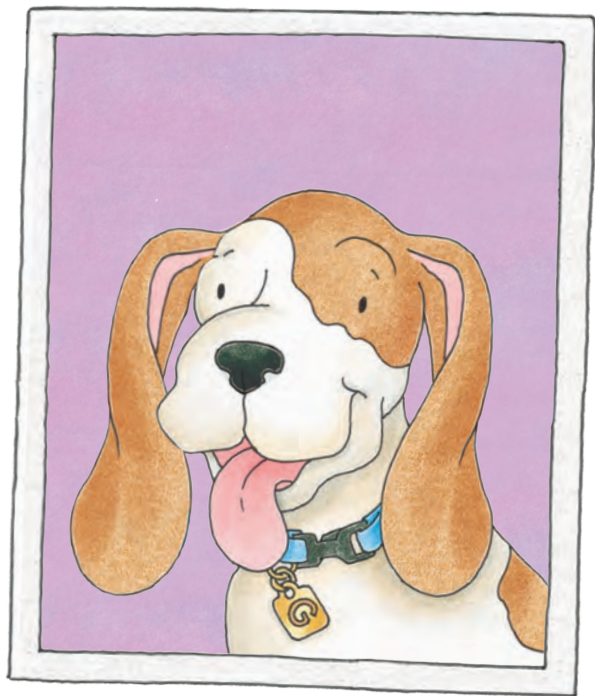


Fast stats about Golly

Unit of character's introduction: Unit 3, kindergarten

Letter-sound: Gg/g/

Song Motion: Pretending to take a big sniff of an odor



Alf

This is Alfalfa, but everyone calls him Alf. Alf loves taking real and imagined adventures like camping, mountain climbing, and sailing the seas. Unfortunately, he also seems to have a problem with ants following him everywhere, which makes him wish he had an anteater for a pet!

He can sometimes be a pest to his friends, so Alf learns not to bother others—especially if they ask him not to—in one Lasting Lesson.



Fast stats about Alf

Unit of Character's Introduction: Unit 4, kindergarten

Letter-Sound: Aa/a/

Song Motion: Pretending to slap ants



Doc

Doc likes to “dibble and dabble” around, fixing old broken toys. She also knows how to use many useful tools to make things like doll houses or racing cars.

It bugs Doc when people copy her, but in second grade she learns an important lesson: Sometimes people do the same things you do because they admire you.



Fast stats about Doc

Unit of Character’s Introduction: Unit 5, kindergarten

Letter-Sound: Dd/d/

Song Motion: Pretending to use a hammer



Sal

Buenos días! Sal is this Superkid's name. Sal speaks both English and Spanish. He likes every sport, and he likes every game!

Sal is the athlete of the group. He likes to sled, slide, swim, surf, splash, ski, skateboard, and ride scooters. Sal learns lessons about sportsmanship and comes to realize it's okay to be friends with kids on the other team.

Fast stats about Sal

Unit of character's introduction: Unit 6, kindergarten

Letter-sound: Ss/s/

Song Motion: Pretending to swim



Lily

This is Lily. She loves to sing lullabies. Lily's favorite toys are a family of small, soft, and furry lions.

Lily finds out that sometimes it can be easy to feel left out, and she learns important lessons about making new friends. Lily tests out those friend-making skills when the new boy, Alec, joins the class in second grade, and she volunteers to be partners with him on a class assignment.



Fast stats about Lily

Unit of Character's Introduction: Unit 7, kindergarten

Letter-Sound: L/l/

Song Motion: Crossing your arms over your heart, to make the sign for love



Icky

This is Ichabod, but everyone calls him Icky. Like many primary-age students, Icky loves to watch TV. TV teaches him a lot of interesting things and inspires him to use his imagination in new ways.

TV shows teach Icky about insects, inchworms, and going to cool places like India or Italy. Icky is dramatic; he likes to act and star in *The Icky Show*. Icky learns that sometimes things are not fair, but he learns how to compromise and cooperate.



Fast stats about Icky

Unit of character's introduction: Unit 3, kindergarten

Letter-sound: Ii/i/

Song Motion: Pretending to click a TV remote control



Tic, Tac, and Toc

Tic, Tac, and Toc are three little girls who are best friends and best known as “triple trouble!”

Tic is super lucky because her grandad sends her gifts from his trips to distant lands. Tic can tumble on the trampoline, talk on the telephone, and play the trumpet and tambourine!

Tic has a tendency to be rambunctious, but she learns that fresh air and exercise can help with that.

Tac can toot on the tuba and tap dance to the tango. She has a turkey costume and likes to pretend she can tame wild tigers.

One of the lessons that Tac learns is that it is okay to ask for help.

Toc can toss a dozen tangerines and is terrific on the old trombone. She tries hard on the tennis

court and has been known to tussle when things don't go her way.

Toc learns that everyone doesn't have to do the same things in order to be friends and that being different is good!



Fast stats about Tic, Tac, and Toc

Unit of characters' introduction: Unit 9, kindergarten

Letter-sound: Tt/t/

Song Motion: Pretending to play the trumpet



Frits

If you walk in the park and you see someone with a fishing pole, that's probably Frits. Frits's Grandpop has a cabin, which is the setting for some Superkids fun!

Frits likes to go fishing and has lots of patience, which is good because he doesn't seem to catch much. Unfortunately, Frits gets a little frazzled and panics before a test, but he learns to calm down and always try his best.



Fast stats about Frits

Unit of Character's Introduction: Unit 10, kindergarten

Letter-Sound: Ff/f/

Song Motion: Pretending to catch a fish



Ettabetta

This Superkid is Ettabetta. Ettabetta likes her name because it rhymes, and she gets very excited when she receives an envelope from her pen pal who lives in Japan.

Ettabetta is a problem-solver. She loves secret codes, riddles, puzzles, and all kinds of excellent games! A natural born leader, sometimes others think she can be a little bossy. She learns about letting others have a turn.



Fast stats about Ettabetta

Unit of Character's Introduction: Unit 11, kindergarten

Letter-Sound: Ee/e/

Song Motion: Pretending to open an envelope and get extremely excited



Hot Rod

Hot Rod really thinks he is a hot shot because he has a go-cart called the Fast Cat. Hot Rod imagines the Fast Cat racing super-fast race cars. When Hot Rod outgrows the Fast Cat, he passes it on to Oswald's little brother Ben, who is a perfect fit!

One of the lessons Hot Rod learns is to return borrowed items in good condition.



Fast stats about Hot Rod

Unit of Character's Introduction: Unit 12, kindergarten

Letter-Sound: Hh/h/

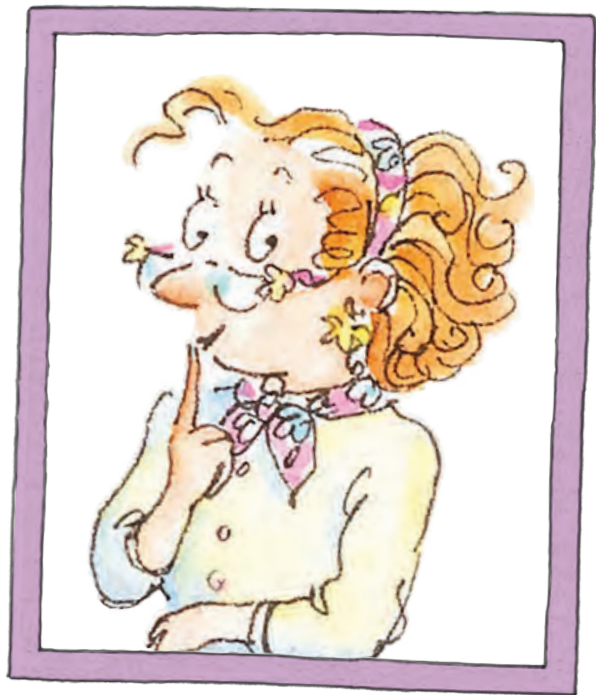
Song Motion: Acting out honking the horn



Ms. Blossom

In second grade, the Superkids all have the same teacher, Ms. Blossom. Ms. Blossom thinks second graders are splendid! The Superkids love and respect her because she is firm, but fair.

Ms. Blossom is also a lot of fun and has a critical role in the BIG change that happens for Golly during the second-grade year.



The Superkids Reading Program

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