

# Passport to New Worlds Reading



Grades K - 1

## Dear Explorer,

Are you ready for an awesome adventure? Every month, you'll discover, explore, and learn about fascinating new places right here in your sunny home state of Florida!

Have tons of fun along the way as you:

- Enjoy a new activity each month.
- Talk about what you learn with your friends and family.
- Collect a special sticker stamp for every new place you visit.

Be sure to check that you have everything you need because your journey starts right now!

Happy travels,

**From your friends at New Worlds Reading**

**This passport belongs to:**



## Ready to Read?

Guess what? When your new book comes each month, it's super exciting! And guess what else? Here's a special list to help you begin your reading adventure just right!

### My Reading Checklist

#### I act like a book detective:

- I read the title and explore the pages inside the book.
- I say what I already know about the topic of the book.



#### I think about what I am reading:

- I read in my favorite spot.
- As I read, I think about what will happen next.



#### I ask questions:

- How can I use the new words I have learned from my book?
- How is this book the same as or different from my life?



## Ready, Set, Tag!

You'll be ready to go right after you fill in your luggage tag. You'll need it to make sure all your stuff can find its way back to you in case your bag gets lost.

Complete your luggage tag by answering these important questions.

### What is your name?

### How old are you?

### What city or town do you live in?

### Your Secret Wishlist

What would make this trip the most "awesomest" of all trips ever? Share your top three wishes for this trip.

On this trip, my biggest wishes are ...

## Keep a Travel Log



Here is a list of the locations you will visit during your trip.

1. Sarasota
2. Clewiston
3. Naples
4. Apollo Beach
5. Fort Lauderdale
6. Clearwater
7. Spring Hill
8. Sanibel
9. The Florida Keys

Caregivers,  
Guide your child in tracing Florida's map with their fingers, noting the stops along the way.

If you can access school-type glue, outline the map with a fine glue line, letting it dry to form a raised edge. As you explore each location, mark it with a glue dot to pinpoint its spot in the state.



## Explore New Words

- **direction** (di-REK-shun): A **direction** tells someone where to go or turn. If you are using a map facing north and are directed to point west, you point to the left. That's the **direction** the sun sets each evening.
- **location** (lo-KAY-shun): A **location** is the place where something happens or is found. Orlando is **located** in the middle of Florida. Where in Florida is your home **located**?

### North, South, East, and West Florida

Florida is a long state. It takes twelve hours to drive from the top all the way to the bottom!

#### North Florida

Jacksonville is a city near the top of the state. That direction is called **north**. If you run your finger along the top part of the map of Florida, that is the north part of the state.

#### South Florida

Now run your fingers along the bottom of the map of Florida. That's where the city of Homestead is, all the way down low on the map. That direction is called **south**.

#### West Florida

Clearwater is a beautiful city located on the left side of the map, like your heart is on the left side of your body. That direction is **west**.

#### East Florida

The city of Titusville is located on the right side of the map, close to the Atlantic Ocean. That direction is **east**.

# October

# Sarasota

**Fun Place:** Myakka River State Park

**Fun Fact:** There's a sinkhole in the river called Deep Hole that's 300 feet wide and 130 feet deep. It's a well-known spot where alligators huddle in very large numbers every day. Beware!



Climb about one hundred steps to reach the Myakka Canopy Walkway to experience eagles, vultures, and other wildlife close-up!

**After reading October's book, say what happens in the beginning and middle. How would you change the ending?**

**In the beginning of the book ...**

**In the middle of the book ...**

**I would change the ending by ...**

Tired from climbing all those stairs? Don't worry! At your next destination, your senses will do all the work!

# November

# Clewiston

**Fun Place:** Big Cypress Seminole Indian Reservation

**Fun Fact:** It's a really huge place—almost twice as large as Disney World!



Big Cypress is home to 600 people from the Seminole Tribe and the Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum. Its mile-long boardwalk takes you on a winding journey through the Everglades.

**Write, say, or show what you might smell, hear, touch, and imagine tasting on this adventure.**

**Smell:** Take a deep sniff. What do you smell?

**Hear:** Shh! Listen carefully. Is that a bird singing or leaves rustling in the breeze? You decide, and say what it is!

**Touch:** Think about holding a feather in one hand and a leaf in the other. What do you notice about how they feel?

**Taste:** Pretend you're a bear trying to find juicy berries. What do the berries taste like? \_\_\_\_\_

**Imagine:** How do you feel as you wander on the boardwalk, exploring Big Cypress? \_\_\_\_\_

Brace yourself! Your sense of smell is in for a sensory surprise at your next stop!

# December

# Naples

**Fun Place:** Naples Botanical Garden

**Fun Fact:** Some plant species at the Botanical Garden are so old that they lived during the time of the dinosaurs. Imagine that! Real-life dinosaur plants!



Prepare to be wowed by amazing birds, bees, butterflies, and blooms. Your senses will come alive at Naples Botanical Garden!

**Be a word explorer by saying the correct words that complete each sentence.**

1. The (plants / went / sun) love the (plants / went / sun), as it helps them grow.
2. We (went / little / birds) on the path and saw many different (went / little / birds).
3. The (flower / soil / wet) feels (flower / soil / wet) under our feet.
4. The Botanical Garden is full of (went / flowers / big) plants and (went / flowers / big).
5. Some (flowers / plants / old) are as (flowers / plants / old) as dinosaurs!

**Answer Key:** 1. plants, sun 2. went, birds 3. soil, wet 4. big, flowers 5. plants, old

I'm big, gentle, and love warm water. I eat plants all day and have no teeth. What sea creature am I? Discover me in next month's reading adventure!

# January

# Apollo Beach

**Fun Place:** TECO Manatee Viewing Center at the Florida Conservation and Technology Center

**Fun Fact:** Manatees are also called sea cows because they eat plants all day, just like cows do on land!



Mighty manatees are gentle giants who love to gather in groups and hang out with their friends as they enjoy Florida's warm winter waters.

**Create a story about a manatee's adventure. Describe what happens first, next, then, and last.**

<b>First ...</b>	<b>Next ...</b>
<b>Then ...</b>	<b>Last ...</b>

Enjoyed mingling with the manatees? Excited for your next adventure discovering real-life stories of courage and heroes? OK, let's go!

## February

## Fort Lauderdale

**Fun Place:** African American Research Library and Cultural Center

**Fun Fact:** The library has a big theater with 300 seats! You can enjoy marvelous movies about the astounding achievements of famous American people who are of African descent.



At the library, you can learn about American heroes who acted bravely by standing up for fairness.

**What does it mean to be brave? Share your opinion about being bold and brave like the American heroes in the books.**

In my opinion,  
being brave  
means ...

It is important  
to be brave  
because ...

I am brave  
when I ...



Your trip next month is to a place in West Central Florida where the water is clear. Can you guess its name?

## March

## Clearwater

**Fun Place:** Moccasin Lake Nature Park

**Fun Fact:** The park has a bird hospital where sick and injured birds of prey get special care and attention until they are well enough to fly again!



Escape the midday sun, stroll the shaded trail, explore a butterfly garden, and maybe encounter a bald eagle or two!

**Listen to the clues and the words in the word bank. Choose a word from the word bank to match each clue.**

**Word bank:** tree, ~~eagle~~, lake, snake, trail, butterfly, birds

A big bird with a bald head

eagle

A group of feathery friends that flies high in the sky

A watery place where an alligator lives

A path for nature walks

A leafy friend that is tall and woody

A colorful flying garden insect

A wriggly reptile found in the grass

**Answer Key:** eagle, birds, lake, trail, tree, butterfly, snake

Grab your swimwear! You'll need it for next month's wet, wonderful, and wild water adventure!

## April

**Fun Place:** Weeki Wachee Springs State Park

**Fun Fact:** “Real” mermaids perform an amazing show in a magical underwater theater!



There’s so much to do at Weeki Wachee! Will you pick kayaking, tubing, or something else? Mermaids love to read and learn. And they’re excited to learn about you!

**Answer the mermaids’ questions as though you were writing a letter to them.**

### Don’t forget to include:

- Heading (Where you live)
- Body (Tell a bit about yourself and things you like to do.)
- Closing (Yours sincerely,)

- 
- Where do you live?
  - What do you want your mermaid friends to know about you?
  - How will you finish your letter? Yours sincerely, or something else?

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Are you soaking wet from exploring Weeki Wachee waters? It’s time to dry off because some special feathered friends can’t wait to meet you next month!

## Spring Hill

## May

**Fun Place:** J.N. “Ding” Darling National Wildlife Refuge

**Fun Fact:** This refuge is like a giant hotel where rare birds from all over the world take a safe and restful break on their long trips, surrounded by beautiful scenery and protected by caring humans.



**Create your own rare bird that lives in the “Ding” Darling Refuge. Think about its features and what it likes to eat. Describe your bird, and name it!**

### Head

- Describe your bird’s head. Is it big, small, feathery, or bald?
- What shape and color are its eyes?
- What does it eat?

### Wings

- Are the wings large or small?

### Body

- Is your bird’s body light or heavy?

### Feet

- Are its feet webbed or not?
- Can it fly, or does it walk to get around?

### Name

- What name will you give to your new species of bird?

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Go from making your own bird creation to the sunny Florida Keys. Make sure to pack some snacks; it’s a long journey to next month’s adventure!



# June

# The Florida Keys

**Fun Place:** Key West

**Fun Fact:** At the bottom of Florida's map are 800 keys. **Keys** comes from the Spanish word **cayo**, meaning **small island**. If you visited one each day, it would take you more than two years to see them all!



Key West has clear blue waters, perfect for swimming on a hot sunny day. You can also explore a real fort and eat yummy key lime pie!

**Use the clues to guess the words!**

**Choices:** fl, ch, sw, igh, sh, cr

Clues	Answers
Waves in the wind and shows colors for a team or state	<u>f</u> l <u>a</u> g
A bright light that comes from the sky during the day	sunl <u>igh</u> t
Something you do in the water	<u>sw</u> im
Water animals that have fins and tails	fi <u>sh</u>
A sea creature with a hard shell	<u>cr</u> ab
A sandy shore by the ocean	bea <u>ch</u>

**Answer Key:** flag, sunlight, swim, fish, crab, beach

After swimming with the fish and splashing at the beach, it's time to head home. Take a nap on your journey home, and have sweet dreams about your next adventure!

# Welcome Back Home!

Welcome back, Traveler! Did you have fun discovering new and exciting places on your trip around Florida? Pick one place you would like to visit again. Finish the sentences, and explain to a friend why it's your favorite place.

Dear \_\_\_\_\_,

**My favorite place to visit was**

\_\_\_\_\_.

**I liked it because**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

## Where to Next Year?

Are you ready to plan your trip for next year? Where would you like to go, and what would you like to do when you get there? Share your hopes and dreams for next year's adventure!

**Where I'd like to go:**

**What I hope to do:**

**It would be a dream come true if ...**

  
  
  


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