The kitten in the mittens
Dear Teachers/Parents,

This series has been specially designed to give the right support to your child in the early stages of learning and to and help him/her read with confidence and enjoyment....Years ago, Dr Seuss took 220 words, rhymed them and turned out "THE CAT IN THE HAT." From this wonderful beginning, came the concept of READ-by-YOURSELF books, a blend of words and beautiful illustrations that encourage children to read on their own.

How to read the book:

* make reading a joyous and a special occasion - full of fun, frolic and excitement
* read the story aloud on the first reading and introduce it to your child
* read aloud all the "SEE and SAY" rhyming words
* make sure your child thoroughly understands the idea
* ask your child to join in and help in the second reading

Remember young children love rhymes and repetition. The more they read a story, the more they feel confident to join in and read words alone... Use the pictures, as they give lots of clues. Talk about what the characters are doing. Encourage the child to predict what will happen next. When a child is stuck for a word, help. Always praise good guesses — much of the skill in reading is in guessing or predicting what a word might be. Always end reading on a positive note.

This book is dedicated to my father Paul Anthony Pals.

Happy Reading,

Thelma Tallow
The kitten in the mitten

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ANUKOOL BOOKS
A long time ago how far back I really don’t know, there was an old man, sitting in the dark, under a fan. Like a flash in the pan, an idea struck this old man, to go for a walk, to Jim Corbett park.
Since there was no one, with whom he could talk, his dog was a good company, but it could not talk. He heard a lark flying in the dark, as he set off to the Park.

Beside him you see, was his dog, he could have got lost in a fog. He walked left, right, left, right in his sky blue pyjamas tight.
Along came a cat,
I must tell you about that.
He had to hold his dog
with all his might,
to stop what could have been
a right royal fight.

In the fading evening light,
he saw a kite,
Tho’ dim was his eye-sight.
He walked and walked, and with his dog he talked, when all of a sudden, he dropped down his mitten.
He nearly stepped on a Mrs Lizzy, who was on her way home to her babies Fizzy and Missy. Talking and talking, he was so busy, if he had noticed, he would have been in a tizzy.
On and on went the old man. He walked slowly, tho’ his dog sometimes ran, if he got the scent of a rabbit, as was his habit.
Now let me tell you,
this story true,
about a tiny kitten,
who had left home
and found his mitten.

At it she sniffed
in a hurry; she would have left,
if it had so much as leapt.
She did not smell anything,
so she decided it was the right thing
to venture right in.
She darted in faster than you could drop a pin.
She made herself at home,
cleaned the curtains with soap and foam,
then sat down in a chair,
she was tired, to be fair.
Along came Maggie Mare,
Who asked, “Is anyone in?”
“Just me,” said Kitty Kitten “Come right in,
I’m having some milk and fish from a tin.”

“We may be kin, but I’d like some grass.
Will you let me pass?
As long as I’m able I like to eat off a table,
with syrup of maple listening to a fable.”
As they were eating, they heard another greeting, “Who’s in there?”
Said the Kitten, “Just me, Kitty Kitten, and Maggie Mare. You may come in but do not stare.”

In came Freddie Fox into his new lair, and they did not dare to tell him to go out, because with his mouth he did pout. Freddie Fox with him had brought some sausage and mash.
He had to offer it to them, he could not do anything rash. The kitten had sharpened her claws, at the end of tiny paws, and the Mare, I'm sure, could dare with a flick of her tail, make a dash and at him lash. So he undid the silken sash around his bundle and offered them his sausages and mash, to save any trouble.
While they ate, they did mumble.
and who should come by:
It was dark, so it did stumble,
and fell right in,
into the Kittens’s mitten.
“Well, I like that!” said Kitty Kitten.
“Not a please nor a knock,
tho’ there’s many a rock.”

“Excuse me, please, I’m Herbert Hedgehog.
Your house may I lease?”
“No!” said all together,
Kitty Kitten, Maggie Mare and Freddie Fox.
“Like this you must not tease.
You may come in for some time.
We do not charge high fees.”
So in settled Herbert Hedgehog,
who passed around a bag of boiled peas.
They went well, I must tell,
with the sausages and mash.
Try it sometime,
it will not give you a rash.
Next came Ronnie Rat, who was tired of cheese fat, which was placed before him daily, on the kitchen mat, by a friendly cat, who by the kitchen fire sat. “May I join you all, please?” “Certainly.” came the answer pat. They were not rude, because they could have all been sued, by the Kitten, who had first found the mitten.
“You can have all of my cheese,
if you please.
I’m so sick of having to pick
at it and lick.
You see, I broke all my teeth,
when at an iron saw,
I tried to gnaw.”

“Share it equally, please” said Kitty Kitten.
“In this mitten, I lay down the law.
If you don’t or if you won’t,
see this claw at the end of my right paw.
I can scratch you raw.”
Yes, they looked and all of them saw,
"You must not be mean.
We are a team,
tho', we are stuffed till the seam."
So they did not dare,
to be anything but fair,
to Kitty Kitten, Herbert Hedgehog,
Freddie Fox, (who else was there?)
Oh, yes, Maggie Mare.

Now in the mitten,
Our dear little Kitty Kitten,
found she had to shove and push,
past the Mare's green grass lush,
if she had to reach
the cheese in a rush.
Yes, indeed, it was a crush,
with Kitty Kitten, Maggie Mare,
Freddie Fox, Herbert Hedgehog and Ronnie Rat,
who was a wee bit fat.
"If it’s no trouble,"
came the voice of Sammy Squirrel,
"May I also share your mitten,
my old friend, Kitty Kitten?"
"Yes," said Kitty Kitten?
"Tho’ you must be prepared to pace,
on Herbert Hedgehog’s face,
to take a place at our table,
in your fine sable."
"I’ve some nuts, will you have some?"
"Yes," said the others.
"In their shell, make some cuts
and pass them around as well."
As they were feasting,
a noise they were creating, (92 decides was my rating),
back came the old man, who had gone for a walk,
since his dog could not talk.
He suddenly noticed, he had dropped his mitten. Said he to his dog, "Go and find it out, or I will have you beaten." Ahead ran his dog, who did not now care, if his master got lost in a fog, or tripped on a log.
“Sniff, sniff, sniff,” went his nose.
“What have we here?”
was his prose.
Out tumbled Sammy Squirrel,
Maggie Mare, Freddie Fox,
Herbert Hedgehog, and Ronnie Rat.
They sure did not have
any time to lose.
When the old man reached there, he picked up his mitten, little realising that in it was another friend for him. Yes, none other than our Kitty Kitten!
READ - by - YOURSELF BOOKS

Young children love rhymes and repetition. They also love listening to stories, but soon they want to read like grown ups.

The READ-by-YOURSELF books allow them to do just that.

They are also an excellent and educationally sound introduction to reading. Intended for children in the age group of 7+ to 9, each book in this series uses rhymes that encourage children to read all by themselves. Hailed by elementary educationists and remedial reading specialists, such rhyming books are enormously popular and used in schools and libraries throughout the English-speaking world.

Each story in this series is:

* Specially written for a child to start reading on his own
* carefully structured to build your child’s confidence and early reading skills
* designed to fit in with any school reading programme
* great fun - so they enjoy reading it again and again.