



THESE FIRST LETTERS

SNEAK
Peek Look:

DECODABLE SERIES FOR TEENS

"Truly enchanting... there's nothing like it."
~ Shira, MS teacher

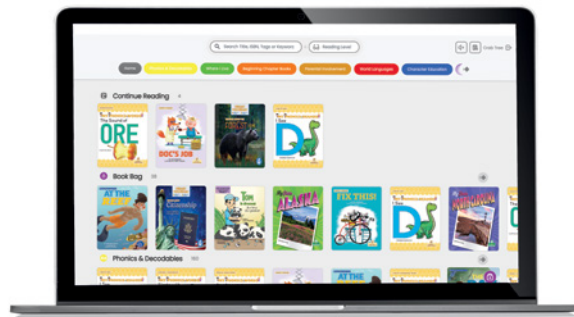


Brain Hive combines both print and digital together for an easy and affordable solution for learning everywhere.

ALL print collections in this catalog come with **FREE DIGITAL**, allowing you to “future proof” your print purchases with digital from Brain Hive.

All digital eBooks included with our print libraries are a **one-time purchase** with **no subscriptions** or **renewal fees**, and can be **accessed from school or home on any device**.

Our state-of-the art platform saves teachers time and helps students succeed with easy access to plentiful resources for digital literacy.



These First Letters is a collection of decodables comprised of 35 "chapters," which are grouped into 8 chapter books.



Time spent with characters

This collection follows the overlapping storylines of 8 characters spanning the globe from the Pacific Northwest to Benin, Africa, written by authors who authentically represent the backgrounds and cultures of these characters.



Scope and sequence

The sequence of stories is aligned with a research-based skill progression, beginning with short vowel sound practice and developing through to a focus on the Magic "E," while repeating skills presented in earlier chapters for added practice.



Guidance and Support

Books will be paired with quick guides for teachers, including relevant word lists, ideas for extended practice, & checks for understanding.

Scope & Sequence



Book 1 - Short vowel sounds

Chapter 1: Short a, e, i
Chapter 2: Short o
Chapter 3: Short u

Book 2 - Consonant blends

Chapter 1: St, Sp, Sk, Sm
Chapter 2: Sc, Sn, Sw, SL
Chapter 3: PL, BL, GL, CL, FL
Chapter 4: Cr, Br, Gr
Chapter 5: Tr, Dr, Fr, Pr

Book 3 - Digraphs

Chapter 1: Ch, Ph, Th, Tch
Chapter 2: Wh, Ck, Sh, Wr
Chapter 3: Ff, Ss, Kn, Ng
Chapter 4: Wr, Ll, Zz, Dge

Book 4 - Welded letters

Chapter 1: All, Am, An
Chapter 2: Ang, Ing, Ank, Ink
Chapter 3: Ong, Onk
Chapter 4: Ung, Unk

Book 5 - R-controlled words

Chapter 1: Ar, Er
Chapter 2: Ir
Chapter 3: Or
Chapter 4: Ur

Book 6 - Vowel teams

Chapter 1: Ai, Ay, Ea, Eigh, Ey
Chapter 2: Ee, Ea, Ey, Ei, Ie
Chapter 3: Ie, Igh
Chapter 4: Oa, Oe
Chapter 5: Ew, Ue, Eu
Chapter 6: Oi, Oy, Ou, Ow, Au, Aw, OO

Book 7 - Hard & soft sounds

Chapter 1: Sounds of C
Chapter 2: Sounds of G
Chapter 3: Sounds of C & G
Chapter 4: Tricky "Y"

Book 8 - Magic E

Chapter 1: Magic E
Chapter 2: Magic E
Chapter 3: Magic E
Chapter 4: Magic E

What it is: a decodable chapter book series for developing readers in grades 4+

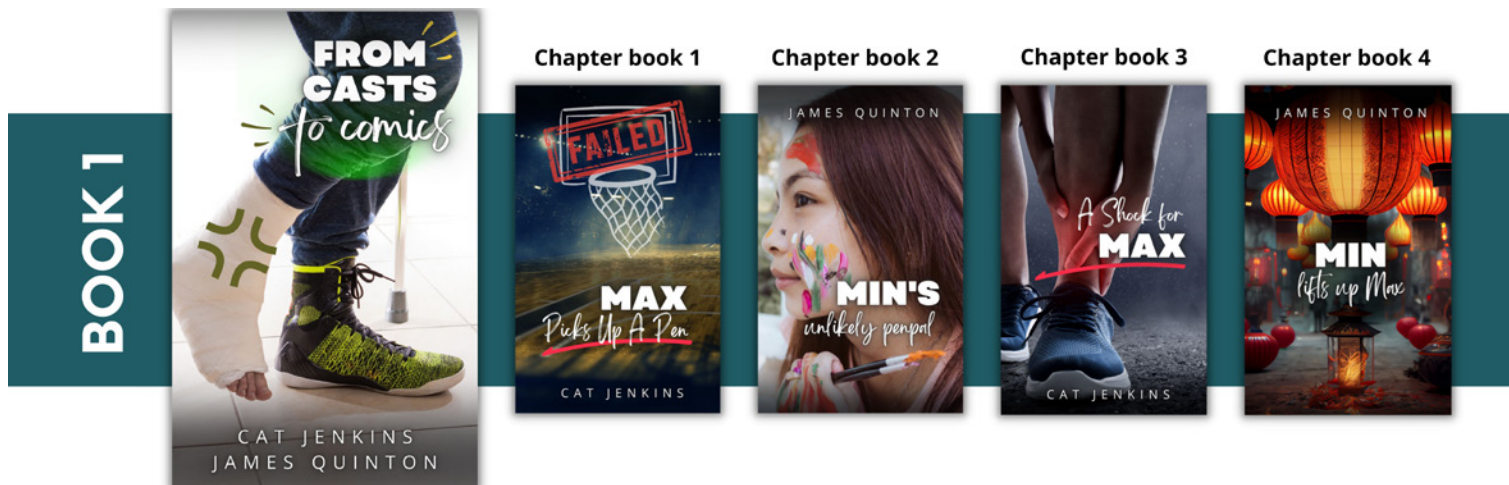
Why: Unlike typical decodables, the Storyshares series provides choices that meet readers at their individual intersections of reading ability *and* interest. Our titles are thoughtfully designed to be engaging for older, developing readers, through a new spin on:

- Book Length
- Book Shape
- Themes
- Characters
- Pictures
- Imagery



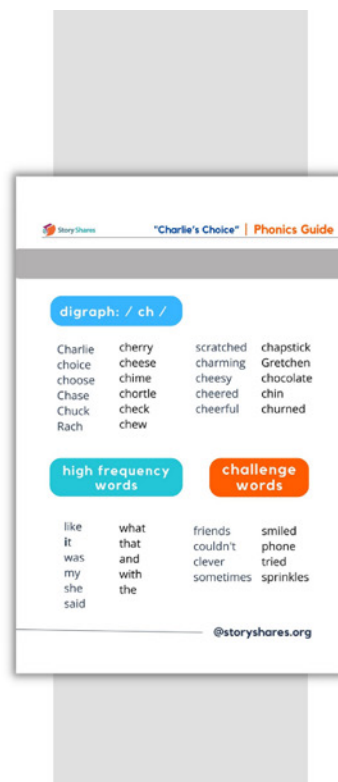
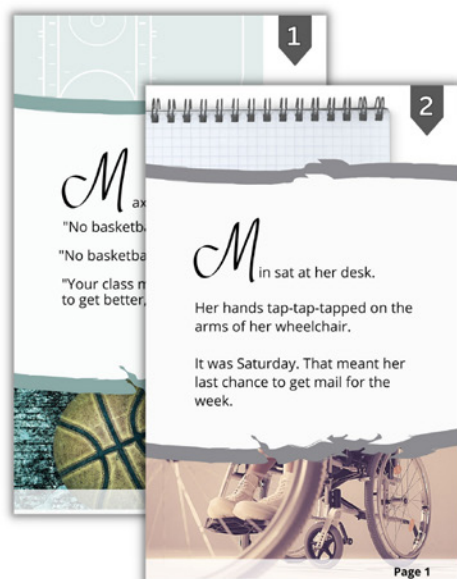
Features

- Controlled, Science of Reading-aligned chapter books for secondary students
- 6 x 9" paperbacks designed to look & feel like popular YA books
- Diverse, compelling, relatable characters
- Topics and themes built around young adult interests
- Photographs to aid comprehension
- Interdisciplinary texts and concepts
- Resources to guide & support classroom use



FROM CASTS TO COMICS by Cat Jenkins and James Quinton

Told in alternating perspective across 4 chapters, book 1 introduces us to Max, a basketball player living in the Pacific Northwest, and Min, an avid reader living in Australia. Max is about to be kicked off his team for poor marks in English. His only hope? Take part in a letter exchange program for extra credit. He is connected with Min, who is part of the program because she loves to write and connect with new friends. They are opposite in every way, it seems, except for one. Both share a love of art, which gives Min a great idea. Maybe, just maybe, she can help Max to love reading by turning her letters to him into comics!



Look Inside Book 1

8 chapter books with **35** decodable texts, phonics guide, and pre-reading pages for challenge and high-frequency words: \$159.51 each

6 pack Brain Hive Special Print + Digital: \$957.06

BOOK 2



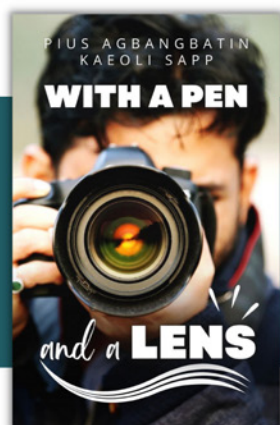
Chapterbook covers coming soon!

SEASHELLS, SPICE, & EVERYTHING NICE *by Jennie Ford and Shanea Strachan*

Told in alternating perspective across 5 chapters, book 2 introduces us to Sasha, a shy, home-schooled middle grader living in rural North Carolina, and Destiny, a middle grade YouTube sensation living in the Bahamas.

As with Max and Min, this relationship begins with a letter exchange program, but in addition to recipes, the two girls fast connect over cooking, sending recipes back and forth along with their letters, which contain details about their very different lives. Sasha gains a lot of inspiration from Destiny and her YouTube channel, which is focused on clean beaches and sustainable fishing. When Sasha visits the ocean for the first time to see what her friend loves so much, she finds herself wrapped up in the cause for marine conservation. Taking the stand to protect something great gives her a strength, a feeling of confidence, that she's never before experienced.

BOOK 3

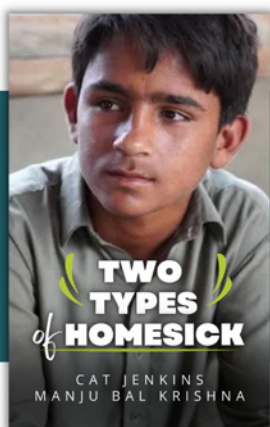


Chapterbook covers coming soon!

WITH A PEN AND A LENS *by Pius Agbangbatin and Kaoli Sapp*

Told in alternating perspective across 4 chapters, book 3 introduces us to two middle grade teens living on different continents who connect over their passions for raising awareness for environmental issues. Carlos is a young photographer using his skills to photo-document the world's most endangered rainforest in his home country of Ecuador. Whit is a tour guide who works on a popular whale-watching cruise off the coast of Benin, Africa. When not sharing fun facts about the local marine life, he is learning to track the migration and habits of an endangered species, the African manatee. Their relationship forms via social media but soon they are more deeply connected with one another and the rest of the world when both of them find their work selected for publishing in a major, international science magazine.

BOOK 4



Chapterbook covers coming soon!

TWO TYPES OF HOMESICK by *Cat Jenkins and Manju Bal Krishna*

Told in alternating perspective across 4 chapters, book 4 introduces us to Arin and Rakesh, two teens from India. Arin has lived in a rural community where his family farms for a living. He has stayed with his long-time friend Rakesh in the city for the past several years during the school year, but the worsening monsoons have forced his parents to seek a new opportunity, which takes Arin all the way to the Pacific Northwest. Now Rakesh is daunted by the prospect of returning to school without his pal, and Arin feels like he is floating in a new culture, school, and community. Soon Rakesh realizes that one can be homesick for not just a place, but a person, and it doesn't take him long to understand that helping Arin to cure his homesickness may in turn be the solution for his own.

BOOK 5



Chapterbook covers coming soon!

COLORING THE WORLD by *Cat Jenkins, James Quinton, and Manju Bal Krishna*

Now that we've met all of our characters, it's time to pull them together!

In the Pacific Northwest corner of the world, basketball season is ending and Max's parents want him to choose an after-school activity that will keep him busy after classes. Inspired by the comics that Min has been sending him from Australia, he joins his school's art club, but fast comes to realize that the course is too strict. He wants to create comics to send back to Min, but his teacher wants him to focus on more traditional art forms. If there's no room for comics in art club, then Max'll just have to start his own club!

Meanwhile, Min wins a chance at her school to be part of a "Think Tank" - a program where students are asked to submit ideas for making student voices heard. Min immediately knows she needs Max's help. The comic books they've been creating for one another are the perfect project! Together and with new student Arin, they work to pull together teens from around the world and bring their stories alive with art.

BOOK 6



Chapterbook covers coming soon!

CRAFTING A COMIC

*by Cat Jenkins, James Quinton, Manju Bal Krishna,
and Pius Agbangbatin*

Min, Max, and Arin have put out a global call online for submissions. The request? For fellow teens to send them stories about what is most important to them in their corners of the world. It's not long before entries come spilling in. Each chapter of this book will share a different entry. From Whit, our whale-watching tour guide in Benin, to Carlos in the rainforest of Ecuador, to Sasha in rural North Carolina, and more -- this project takes off like a snowball rolling down a hill.

BOOK 7



Chapterbook covers coming soon!

GROUP CHAT, INK *by Cat Jenkins and James Quinton*

This collection of 4 chapter books is told entirely in the form of a group chat. Now that Max, Min, and Arin have enough entries to begin pulling Min's Think Tank project together, they've decided that it would be useful (and fun!) to create an online meeting space for the students taking part in this project. Over these 4 chapter books, we dive deeper into the backgrounds, personalities, and passions of the characters making up this decodables series.

BOOK 8



Chapterbook covers coming soon!

FACES IN THE CROWD *by Cat Jenkins and James Quinton*

The results are in! Min has won the Think Tank! As she takes the stage to accept her award, she notices many familiar faces in the audience. Is that...Whit? And Destiny? Carlos? There's Arin and Rakesh! And Sasha. And coming toward her on the stage is... Max! He's holding a letter he has written for her that shares some extra-exciting news for all of them.

BONUS: The final chapter of this book is designed to look and feel like the graphic novel that our characters have worked together to create. We're excited by the fact that readers will have followed our crew from the moment they begin to meet one another all the way through to being able to experience firsthand the outcome of their efforts.



Contact us for a quick quote!

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