

Miami University Libraries
The Walter Havighurst Special Collections
McGuffey Reader Collection: Word Lists

This is an inventory of the volumes of word lists - a list of the words in McGuffey's Primer and Readers given in regular order, as they first occur, by lessons. The McGuffey Reader Collection provides over 600 examples of the evolution of the Readers that William Holmes McGuffey began writing at the Oxford home in 1834 and continued being published through the 1920s. From Primers through High School Readers, the whole collection also includes word lists, spelling books and juvenile speaking texts published in complimentary editions to the Eclectic Educational Series. Several German and Spanish editions of the Readers are found in the collection.

The finding aid for the collection includes the descriptive details of the cover and title pages, publisher names listed on the Reader title, copyright entry information, publication dates, lesson titles and authors, illustrators and artists engravers, binding details and inscriptions and other unique identifying features of the readers in the collection. In studying the collection, researchers can see how McGuffey relied on familiar everyday objects like the ax and farm animals to teach children their ABCs. Illustrations of familiar scenes demonstrate the difference between the Reader and the forbidding early American schoolbook the "New England Primer" that combined religion with education. The collection also reveals how the popular readers became significant to children's educational and cultural development. McGuffey's selection of prose and poetry taught them to read,

Originally published by Truman & Smith of Cincinnati as part of the Eclectic Educational Series, the McGuffey Readers also demonstrate changing developments in the 19th century printing industry. The collection reveals how the Readers became the product of publishing houses that merged and grew, publisher names and locations often varied between the title page and the cover of the same Reader. Cover illustrations and binding styles can also vary between copies of the same edition of the Reader in the collection.

A teacher since the age of 14, William Holmes McGuffey (1800-1873) was a professor of ancient languages at Miami University from 1826 until his resignation in 1836. He served as president of Cincinnati College (1836-1839) and Ohio University (1839-1843). Returning to Cincinnati, McGuffey taught at Woodward College from 1843-1845, when he became professor of moral philosophy at the University of Virginia. He remained there until his death. He was ordained as a Presbyterian minister in 1829. McGuffey married Harriet Spinning of Dayton, Ohio on April 3, 1827. In addition to three boys who either died in infancy and childhood, their children included two daughters, Mary McGuffey Stewart (1830-1910) and Henrietta McGuffey Hepburn (1932-1922). Henrietta's husband, Andrew D. Hepburn (1830-1921) was president of Miami University from 1871 to 1873 and a professor in Miami's English department for many years.

Category	Title	Cover Title	Series	Publisher Name/ Location from Cover	Publisher Name/ Location from Title Page	Copyright Entered By	Publication Date	Contents	Illustrations	Binding	Current Catalog Number	Notes
Word List	The Eclectic Third Reader. Containing Selections in Prose and Poetry, from the Best American and English Writers. With Plain Rules for Reading, and Directions for Avoiding Common Errors	The Eclectic Third Reader. Containing Selections in Prose and Poetry, from the Best American and English Writers.	Eclectic School Series	Cincinnati (150 Main Street): Truman and Smith	Cincinnati: Truman and Smith	Mott Media, Inc. (1982)	1837 (1982)	Preface precedes text	Some illustrations throughout text	Brown paper pasted to boards; illustration of Napoleon on horseback on front cover; advertisement for new schoolbooks on back cover	Spec PE 1117.M243 1982	
Word List	A List of the Words in McGuffey's Primer and Readers Given in Regular Order, as they First Occur, by Lessons	Word Lists of McGuffey's Readers Revised Edition		Cincinnati and New York: Van Antwerp, Bragg & Co.	Cincinnati and New York: Van Antwerp, Bragg & Co.	Van Antwerp, Bragg & Co. (1886)	Missing	Preface (iii-iv) precedes list		Brown paper pasted to boards; brown cloth spine; sewn binding; scrolled border with centered title on front cover; missing back cover	Word List 1866 1	Inscribed "Edgar Moody" on inside front cover
Word List	A List of the Words in McGuffey's Primer and Readers Given in Regular Order, as they First Occur, by Lessons	Word Lists of McGuffey's Readers Revised Edition		Cincinnati and New York: Van Antwerp, Bragg & Co.	Cincinnati and New York: Van Antwerp, Bragg & Co.	Van Antwerp, Bragg & Co. (1886)	Missing	Preface (iii-iv) precedes list		Brown paper pasted to boards; brown cloth spine; sewn binding; scrolled border with centered title on front cover; scrolled design with centered ship on back cover	Word List 1866 2	Inscribed "Carrie J. Riley" on inside front cover

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Word List	A List of the Words in McGuffey's Primer and Readers Given in Regular Order, as they First Occur, by Lessons	Word Lists of McGuffey's Readers Revised Edition		Cincinnati and New York: Van Antwerp, Bragg & Co.	Cincinnati and New York: Van Antwerp, Bragg & Co.	Van Antwerp, Bragg & Co. (1886)	Missing	Preface (iii-iv) precedes list		Brown paper pasted to boards; maroon cloth spine; sewn binding; scrolled border with centered title on front cover; scrolled design with centered ship on back cover	Word List 1886a c.11	Stamped "B.F. Mayes" on free endpaper
Word List	A List of the Words in McGuffey's Primer and Readers Given in Regular Order, as they First Occur, by Lessons	Word Lists of McGuffey's Readers Revised Edition		New York, Cincinnati and Chicago: American Book Company	New York, Cincinnati and Chicago: American Book Company	Van Antwerp, Bragg & Co. (1886)	Missing	Preface (iii-iv) precedes list		Brown paper pasted to boards; maroon cloth spine; sewn binding; scrolled border with centered title on front cover; scrolled design with centered ship on back cover	Word List 1886 c.10	Inscribed "Louella Myers Sharonville O." on free endpaper
Word List	A List of the Words in McGuffey's Primer and Readers Given in Regular Order, as they First Occur, by Lessons	Word Lists of McGuffey's Readers Revised Edition		New York, Cincinnati and Chicago: American Book Company	New York, Cincinnati and Chicago: American Book Company	Van Antwerp, Bragg & Co. (1886)	Missing	Preface (iii-iv) precedes list		Brown paper pasted to boards; maroon cloth spine; sewn binding; scrolled border with centered title on front cover; scrolled design with centered ship on back cover	Word List 1886 c.9	Inscribed "Lawrence Englert" on free endpaper

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Word List	A List of the Words in McGuffey's Primer and Readers Given in Regular Order, as they First Occur, by Lessons	Word Lists of McGuffey's Readers Revised Edition		New York, Cincinnati and Chicago: American Book Company	New York, Cincinnati and Chicago: American Book Company	Van Antwerp, Bragg & Co. (1886)	Missing	Preface (iii-iv) precedes list		Brown paper pasted to boards; maroon cloth spine; sewn binding; scrolled border with centered title on front cover; scrolled design with centered ship on back cover; spine repaired with black tape	Word List 1886 c.7	
Word List	A List of the Words in McGuffey's Primer and Readers Given in Regular Order, as they First Occur, by Lessons	Word Lists of McGuffey's Readers Revised Edition		New York, Cincinnati and Chicago: American Book Company	New York, Cincinnati and Chicago: American Book Company	Van Antwerp, Bragg & Co. (1886)	Missing	Preface (iii-iv) precedes list		Brown paper pasted to boards; maroon cloth spine; sewn binding; scrolled border with centered title on front cover; scrolled design with centered ship on back cover	Word List 1886 c.6	Illegible inscriptions on inside front and back covers
Word List	A List of the Words in McGuffey's Primer and Readers Given in Regular Order, as they First Occur, by Lessons	Word Lists of McGuffey's Readers Revised Edition		New York, Cincinnati and Chicago: American Book Company	New York, Cincinnati and Chicago: American Book Company	Van Antwerp, Bragg & Co. (1886)	Missing	Preface (iii-iv) precedes list		Brown paper pasted to boards; maroon cloth spine; sewn binding; scrolled border with centered title on front cover; scrolled design with centered ship on back cover	Word List 1886 c.5	Inscribed "Helen D. Rentschler, 643 Dayton St., Hamilton, Ohio" on inside front cover

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Word List	A List of the Words in McGuffey's Primer and Readers Given in Regular Order, as they First Occur, by Lessons	Word Lists of McGuffey's Readers Revised Edition		New York, Cincinnati and Chicago: American Book Company	New York, Cincinnati and Chicago: American Book Company	Van Antwerp, Bragg & Co. (1886)	Missing	Preface (iii-iv) precedes list		Brown paper pasted to boards; maroon cloth spine; sewn binding; scrolled border with centered title on front cover; scrolled design with centered ship on back cover	Word List 1886 c.3	
Word List	A List of the Words in McGuffey's Primer and Readers Given in Regular Order, as they First Occur, by Lessons	Word Lists of McGuffey's Readers Revised Edition		New York, Cincinnati and Chicago: American Book Company	New York, Cincinnati and Chicago: American Book Company	Van Antwerp, Bragg & Co. (1886)	Missing	Preface (iii-iv) precedes list		Brown paper pasted to boards; maroon cloth spine; sewn binding; scrolled border with centered title on front cover; scrolled design with centered ship on back cover	Word List 1886 c.2	inscribed "Essie Killough Oxford O. Apr." and "Clive S. Killough Camden Ohio Mar 4th 189" on free endpaper
Word List	A List of the Words in McGuffey's Primer and Readers Given in Regular Order, as they First Occur, by Lessons	Word Lists of McGuffey's Readers Revised Edition		New York, Cincinnati and Chicago: American Book Company	New York, Cincinnati and Chicago: American Book Company	Van Antwerp, Bragg & Co. (1886)	Missing	Preface (iii-iv) precedes list		Brown paper pasted to boards; maroon cloth spine; sewn binding; scrolled border with centered title on front cover; scrolled design with centered ship on back cover	Word List 1886 c.1	inscribed "Janet J. Allison Central Building ____ 1892" on free endpaper