

Dear Educator,

Introduce a new generation of learners to the beloved and timeless children's book character, Paddington Bear, with this free **Paddington** educational program from The Weinstein Company, HarperCollins Publishing, and curriculum specialists Young Minds Inspired.

The program is based on **Paddington**—the new, live-action film opening Christmas Day and starring Hugh Bonneville, Sally Hawkins, Nicole Kidman, Julie Waters, Jim Broadbent, and Ben Whishaw as the voice of Paddington—as well as the new **Paddington Bear** early reader series now available from HarperCollins. The materials feature this lovable, iconic bear from the jungles of Peru as the perfect reading partner to motivate and nurture student literacy development. Viewing the film and reading the new books, while not necessary, will enhance learning outcomes.

We hope that you will share this program with other teachers in your school. Although the materials are copyrighted, you may make as many copies as needed for educational purposes.

Please use the enclosed reply card or comment online at www.ymiclassroom.com/paddington to provide feedback. **The first 50 teachers who send back their reply card or reply online will receive a FREE Paddington plush toy for their classroom!**

We depend on your input to continue providing free educational programs that make a real difference in students' lives.

Sincerely,



Dr. Dominic Kinsley
Editor in Chief
Young Minds Inspired

 is the only company developing innovative, free classroom materials that is owned and directed by award-winning former teachers. Visit our website at www.ymiclassroom.com to send feedback and download more free programs. For questions, contact us toll-free at 1-800-859-8005 or by email at feedback@ymiclassroom.com.

PADDINGTON

TARGET AUDIENCE

Elementary school students in grades K-3 and their parents. Review how these activities align with Common Core English Language Arts Standards at www.ymiclassroom.com/paddington.

PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

- To nurture a love for reading.
- To strengthen student vocabulary skills and understanding of story development.
- To promote critical thinking skills by encouraging students to make connections between the movie's themes and their own experiences.
- To engage students through creative writing activities.
- To encourage parent and child to read together at home.

PROGRAM COMPONENTS

- This one-page teacher's guide.
- Three reproducible activity sheets.
- A colorful classroom poster.
- A reply card for your comments, or comment online at www.ymiclassroom.com/paddington

HOW TO USE THIS PROGRAM

Photocopy the teacher's guide and activity sheets before displaying the poster in your classroom. Make additional copies of Activity 2 and color and cut out the Paddington figures to use as student storytelling props or visual prompts for writing. Schedule the activities to supplement your ELA curriculum. Direct students to take completed activity sheets home to share with parents.

Start by reading the original version of *Paddington Bear* by Michael Bond aloud to students. Follow up by sharing information about the new movie from the *About Paddington* section of this guide, challenging students to make predictions about how Paddington's new adventures as depicted in the film might differ from the books.

ABOUT PADDINGTON

Starring Nicole Kidman, Hugh Bonneville, Sally Hawkins, Julie Waters, Jim Broadbent and Ben Whishaw, **Paddington** is sure to become an instant family classic! Paddington's experiences with his new family are instantly relatable to kids—like learning to brush his teeth, eat in a restaurant, or ride on a bus—all of which Paddington does in his own unique and charming way.

Paddington has grown up deep in the Peruvian jungle with his Aunt Lucy who, inspired by a chance encounter with an English explorer, has raised her nephew to dream of an exciting life in London. When an earthquake destroys their home, Aunt Lucy decides to smuggle her young nephew on board a boat bound for England, in search of a better life. Arriving alone at Paddington Station, Paddington soon finds that city life is not all he had imagined—until he meets the kindly Brown family, who find him with a label tied around his neck which reads, "Please look after this bear."

Thank you." They offer him a temporary home while he searches for the explorer who impressed Aunt Lucy all those years before.

But when Paddington catches the eye of a sinister, villainous taxidermist, it isn't long before his home—and very existence—are under threat.

ABOUT THE HARPERCOLLINS PADDINGTON BEAR EARLY READER BOOK SERIES

HarperCollins' early reader series featuring Paddington Bear will encourage young readers of all skill levels to strengthen reading and comprehension skills. The series includes fun titles such as *Meet Paddington*, *Paddington's Adventures*, *Paddington in London*, *Paddington's World*, and *Paddington: The Junior Novel* that are sure to motivate even the most reluctant reader to join Paddington in his many adventures. Each book is developed to target key literacy skills by reading level and gives children the supportive structure they need to advance from one level to the next.

ACTIVITY 1 PADDINGTON AND ME

Guide students as they read and respond to information they learn about Paddington in the graphic. Then have students share their completed sentences with one another.

Have students work independently or in groups, depending on their abilities, to develop a story about Paddington. Provide additional paper for them to write and/or illustrate their stories, using your regular classroom writing supports or prompts. Plan time for students to share their stories with one another.

ACTIVITY 2 AN ADVENTURE FOR PADDINGTON

Review the literacy concepts of *beginning*, *middle* and *end* as you refer to the organizer sections of the activity sheet. Then, have students use the structure provided on the activity sheet as they work independently or in groups and create their version of how the scene might continue in the film. Older students may use the structured format as the basis for a rough draft before writing a formal piece on a separate sheet of paper.

ACTIVITY 3 AN ADVENTURE TO WRITE ABOUT!

Explain to younger students the types of things that Paddington writes about to Aunt Lucy. Then, depending on students' abilities, offer support as needed to complete the Adventure Letter Details outline. Provide students with blank paper and have them refer to their completed Adventure Letter Details section when writing their letter. Explain that this activity will help them practice an effective writing strategy of thinking through details before completing a final draft. Then plan time for students to share their letters with one another.

RESOURCES

www.paddington.com
www.harpercollins.com/books/paddington
www.ymiclassroom.com

The first 50 teachers to send in their reply card or reply online receive a FREE Paddington plush toy for their classroom.



ACTIVITY 1

PADDINGTON AND ME

In the new, magical adventure film, **Paddington**, Paddington Bear arrives at the train station all alone from Darkest Peru. He's scared! But soon he meets the friendly Brown family. Then, before you know it, his adventures really begin!

Read the chart to learn more about lovable Paddington. Then complete the sentences and share things about you. Are you anything like Paddington?



Favorite Food:
marmalade

My favorite food is:



Favorite Clothing:
blue coat and red hat

My favorite clothing is:

Born:

Darkest Peru

I was born in:



Hobby:

Writing letters to Aunt Lucy

My hobby:



Favorite Activity:

Sharing sweet rolls and cocoa with friends

My favorite activity:



Dear Parents,
Your child is participating in a special literacy program featuring the beloved children's book character, Paddington Bear, now starring in his own major motion picture, **Paddington**, opening Christmas Day.

Share your own childhood memories of Paddington Bear, along with your responses to the prompts in the chart at left. Then, have your child practice storytelling skills by sharing their *Paddington and Me* story with you.

You can help your child practice reading skills at home with the new *Paddington Bear* early reader book series from HarperCollins, available beginning Oct. 28 at major book retailers.



PADDINGTON AND ME!

Now, it's time to write a story about you and Paddington!
Use what you now know about Paddington to help you get started.
Write your story on the back of this sheet.



PADDINGTON OPENS CHRISTMAS DAY
VISIT **PADDINGTON.COM** TO LEARN MORE!

ACTIVITY 2

AN ADVENTURE FOR PADDINGTON

In the new, magical adventure film, **Paddington**, lovable Paddington Bear has many unexpected adventures. You can learn about one of them below.

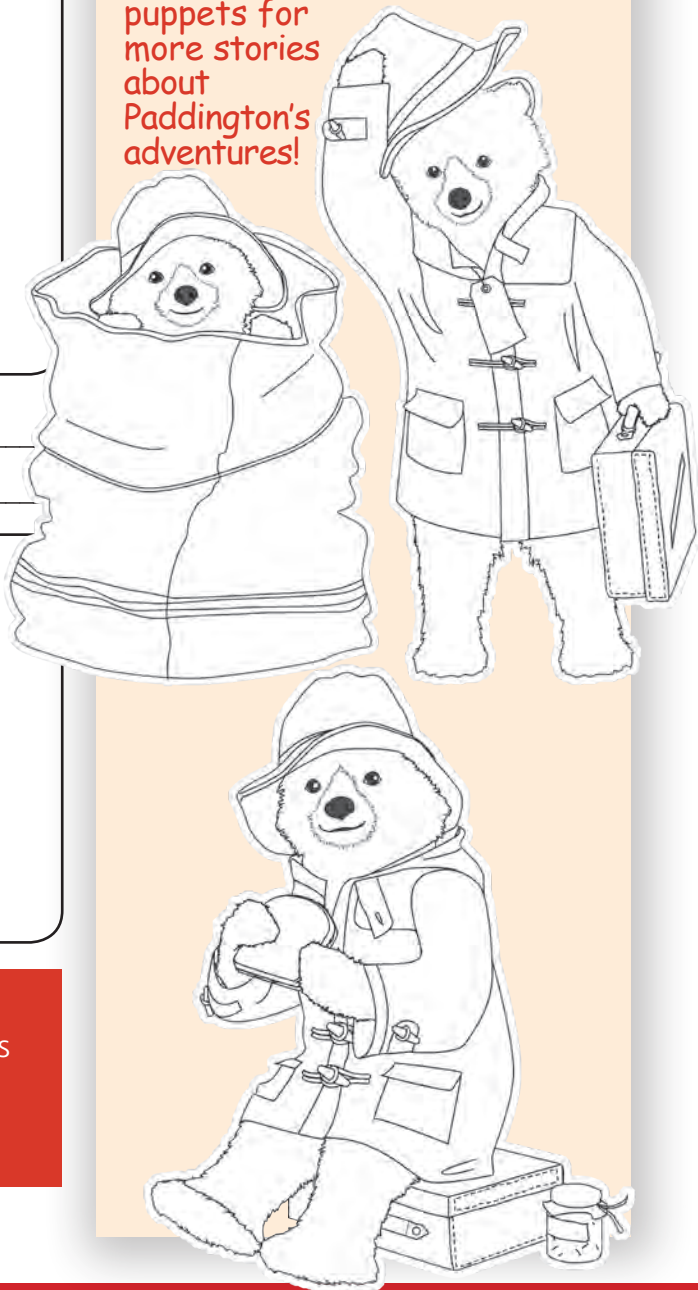
Read the first paragraph, and then imagine what you think will happen next.

Beginning: Paddington and Mr. Brown learn that there are no records of the explorer who discovered Paddington's family in Peru. The records have been hidden on purpose! But why? To find out, Paddington and Mr. Brown put on disguises and sneak past the guards of the Geographer's Guild. They are on a mission to learn the truth about the mysterious explorer.

Middle: _____

End: _____

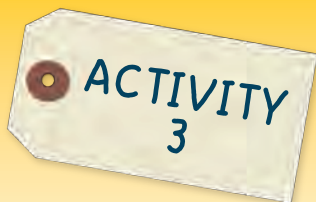
Parents! Your child wrote a "what happens next" story based on a scene from the adorable new film, **Paddington**, opening Christmas Day. Encourage your child to share his or her story. Then color and cut out these Paddington figures to use as props or puppets for more stories about Paddington's adventures!



Visit paddington.com and click on *Adventure Diary* to see how Paddington's fans from around the world are sharing his modern-day adventures in an online scrapbook. Maybe you and your family will want to add a new post!



PADDINGTON OPENS CHRISTMAS DAY
VISIT **PADDINGTON.COM** TO LEARN MORE!



AN ADVENTURE TO WRITE ABOUT!

In the exciting new film **Paddington**, Paddington Bear likes to write letters to his Aunt Lucy, who is still in Darkest Peru.

He loves Aunt Lucy, who took care of him since he was only a baby bear.

Paddington lets Aunt Lucy know that London is a very exciting place. Where else can a bear have tea, marmalade and biscuits, chase after a thief while on a skateboard, and find out how a vacuum cleaner can save your life?



ADVENTURE LETTER DETAILS

Write a letter to someone you love, telling about your adventures! Remember that an adventure can be any event or activity where something surprising or unusual happened, even if it was close to home!

First, write and draw your letter ideas in the sections below. Then follow your teacher's directions to complete the letter using your ideas.

This letter will be written to:	
<i>Adventure Details</i>	<i>What My Adventure Looks Like</i>
Who:	
What:	
When:	
Where:	
How I Felt:	

Parents! Ask your child to read his or her Adventure Letter to you. You might even write a return letter about one of your own special childhood memories, such as a special birthday or trip.

ADVENTURES IN LITERACY AT HOME!

Follow these tips to help make reading books like the new *Paddington Bear* series a fun adventure for your child!

1. **Mix it up!** Introduce different book genres. For example, non-fiction titles about bears are a perfect match-up to the fictional *Paddington Bear* reader series!
2. **Stay on schedule!** Plan to read together every night. Keep it consistent, and make it cozy to reinforce that reading is important and fun.
3. **Communicate!** Ask questions and make connections between your child's real life experiences and those you read about together.
4. **Communicate more!** Stay in touch with your child's teacher to find out how you can support efforts at school.



BRING READING TO LIFE BY SEEING **PADDINGTON**
WITH YOUR FAMILY ON CHRISTMAS DAY!

VISIT **PADDINGTON.COM** TO LEARN MORE!