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STEP INTO READING®

STEP

3

READING ON YOUR OWN

MINECRAFT

OVER 30 STICKERS!

ESCAPE
FROM THE
NETHER!



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Dear Parents:

Congratulations! Your child is taking the first steps on an exciting journey. The destination? Independent reading!



STEP INTO READING® will help your child get there. The program offers five steps to reading success. Each step includes fun stories and colorful art or photographs. In addition to original fiction and books with favorite characters, there are Step into Reading Non-Fiction Readers, Phonics Readers and Boxed Sets, Sticker Readers, and Comic Readers—a complete literacy program with something to interest every child.

Learning to Read, Step by Step!



Ready to Read Preschool–Kindergarten

• big type and easy words • rhyme and rhythm • picture clues

For children who know the alphabet and are eager to begin reading.



Reading with Help Preschool–Grade 1

• basic vocabulary • short sentences • simple stories

For children who recognize familiar words and sound out new words with help.



Reading on Your Own Grades 1–3

• engaging characters • easy-to-follow plots • popular topics

For children who are ready to read on their own.



Reading Paragraphs Grades 2–3

• challenging vocabulary • short paragraphs • exciting stories

For newly independent readers who read simple sentences with confidence.



Ready for Chapters Grades 2–4

• chapters • longer paragraphs • full-color art

For children who want to take the plunge into chapter books but still like colorful pictures.

STEP INTO READING® is designed to give every child a successful reading experience. The grade levels are only guides; children will progress through the steps at their own speed, developing confidence in their reading.

Remember, a lifetime love of reading starts with a single step!

For Sofia
—*N.E.*

*Special thanks to Kelsey Howard,
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MINECRAFT



ESCAPE FROM THE NETHER!

by Nick Eliopoulos
illustrated by Alan Batson

Random House  New York



Emmy and Birch
were ready for adventure!
Emmy had a brand-new helmet
and matching boots
made of yellow gold.
Birch had a brand-new sword
made of iron.



Byte, their loyal wolf,
just wanted to play.

“We can play fetch,”
said Emmy.

“Ready, boy?”
asked Birch.



“FETCH!”



Byte ran after the stick.
But he did not return.
“Where did he go?”
asked Birch.
They both called him.



They did not find Byte,
but they saw something
strange.

Beneath the trees,
they found
a rectangle of blocks
made of black obsidian.
The air glowed purple
inside it.



“It’s a portal
to the Nether,”
said Emmy.
She put her hand
into the purple light.
Her hand disappeared!

