These Reception year (Grade R) Rainbow Workbooks form part of the Department of Basic Education’s strategy to boost South African children’s school performance. Research shows that for every year that children are exposed to stimulating activities before Grade 1, they perform better academically in later years – throughout their primary and secondary schooling. Hence this strong focus on learning in Grade R.

The Foundation Phase curriculum requires that Grade R learners are given the opportunity to develop their pre-reading, pre-writing and pre-mathematics skills and outlines the skills they will need to get a solid educational foundation so that they find it easier to learn in Grade 1 and beyond.

The Grade R workbooks are designed to assist children in developing these skills. They are packed with opportunities for children to develop and practice the skills that will prepare them for formal schooling.

Before children formally learn to read, they need to find out how to hold a book and turn its pages, and to understand how books work. They need to understand the relationship between the words and pictures in a book and to realise that words on a page are made up of sounds and have meaning. Similarly, before children learn to write, they need to develop their fine motor coordination, to practise the formation of shapes and then to move on to forming letters. These are precisely the skills that these workbooks aim to develop.

We know that all children do not learn at the same pace so the Grade R workbooks make it possible for teachers to work at the learner’s individual pace and, where necessary, to go backwards and forwards in the book, in line with each child’s unique development. The activities will also assist teachers in identifying barriers that children may have in learning so that these can be addressed before the child starts formal schooling.

The workbooks integrate the teaching of literacy, numeracy and life skills across 20 themes using fun and engaging ways to capture young learners’ interest and attention. We hope that your learners will enjoy working through the workbook activities as they grow and learn, and that you, as their teacher, will share in their pleasure.
To the Educator:

Learners need to practise their work before they attempt to complete the activities in their workbooks. For example:

• When learners are required to circle the correct answer, let them first place a marker on the correct answer. They should then check with the teacher that it is correct before they write in their books.

• When the activity requires learners to trace something, let them do it with their fingers first before they do it in writing.

Please note: Learners are all at different developmental stages. If you see that some learners still need attention to develop their fine motor skills, let them practice their work in their lined exercise books until they are confident enough to write in their workbooks.
About Me

I am in Grade R
I am a boy

I am a girl

My name is: [Blank]

My name is: [Blank]
Let's do Draw a picture of yourself.
Let's do Colour the correct number of candles to show how old you are.

I am 5 6 7 years old.
Let's write

Paste the stickers in the correct places. Then, trace the line with your finger and then with a crayon.

Help the boy to find his bike.

Help the girl to kick the ball.

Trace the string to the kite.

Drive the car to school and then back home.

For extra practise, let learners trace over their lines a few times using different colours.
How much I weigh

Let's write

My eye colour

My hair colour
Let’s do Paste in a star sticker to show what you like to do.

I like to:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>dance</th>
<th>read a story</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><img src="image1" alt="dance" /></td>
<td><img src="image2" alt="read a story" /></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>play with my friends</th>
<th>play with a ball</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><img src="image3" alt="play with friends" /></td>
<td><img src="image4" alt="play with ball" /></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>build with blocks</th>
<th>sing</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><img src="image5" alt="build with blocks" /></td>
<td><img src="image6" alt="sing" /></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Let’s write

Draw a picture of what you like to do.

My name is:
Let's write

Match the pictures.

My name is:
Let's count
Circle the blocks that have 1 item.
Clap your hands once for each item you see.

Practise the numbers.
In the classroom

Look at the picture and talk about what the children are doing?
What do you like to do?

Let's write

Term 1 – Week 1–5

Paste the stickers in the correct spaces.
Draw strings for the balloons.
Which balloon has the shortest string?
Which balloon has the longest string?

Colour the balloons in red, yellow, green and blue.
Find the faces that show the same emotion as the emotion in the first picture.

Let’s write

Where is this boy looking? Without moving your head, move your eyes so that you look in the same direction that the boy is looking.
Let's count. Let's count. Practise the number 2.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Circle the blocks that have 2 items in them. Clap twice each time you see 2 items.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term 1 – Week 1–5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>My name is:</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Let's write

Colour 2 items in each row.

My name is:
What do you carry in your school bag? Paste in the stickers to pack the bag.

Let’s write
Write your name on the school bag.

Name:
Let's write

Paste the stickers in the correct places. Then, trace the line with your finger and then with a crayon.

Help the bee find its hive.

Help the frog find the pond.

Help the bird find its nest.

Help the boat to get to the island.

For extra practise, let learners trace over their lines a few times using different colours.
Let’s do Paste in a star sticker to show what you like to do at school.

I like to:

- paint
- draw
- walk with a friend
- read a story
- count
- cut out pictures

My name is: Paste the stickers in the correct spaces.
Let's write Draw a picture of what you like to do at school.

My name is:
Look at the picture and talk about what the children are doing.
Point to your head, shoulders, knees and toes. Now point to them in the picture. What body parts do you have one of? What body parts do you have two of?
Let’s write

Point to your head, arms, legs and body. Draw yourself.

My name is:

Write your name and clap the beat.
Heads, shoulders, knees and toes,
Heads, shoulders, knees and toes.
Eyes and ears and mouth and nose.
Heads, shoulders, knees and toes,
Heads, shoulders, knees and toes.

Let’s write
Cut out and then paste in the arms and legs to complete this picture. Then colour in your picture.

Let’s sing
Let’s sing
Let’s sing
Let’s sing
Stand like the boy and the girl in these pictures. Show your right hand and then your left hand. Stamp your right foot and then you left foot.
My name is: [Blank]
girl
front
right hand
left hand
right foot
left foot
Let's write

Help the baby find his teddy bear.

Help the dog to find its bone.

Help Ann to find her book.

Help the baby to crawl to her mother.

Paste in the stickers in the correct places. Then, trace the line with your finger and then with a crayon.

For extra practise, let learners trace over their lines a few times using different colours.

Paste the stickers in the correct spaces.
Let's write

Trace your weaker hand and then count your fingers.

Then use some lipstick or paint to fill in your finger prints.
Let's do

Do what these children are doing.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>hands on hips</th>
<th>touch your knees</th>
<th>touch the opposite foot</th>
<th>touch the opposite shoulder</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><img src="image1.png" alt="Image" /></td>
<td><img src="image2.png" alt="Image" /></td>
<td><img src="image3.png" alt="Image" /></td>
<td><img src="image4.png" alt="Image" /></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>cross your arms</th>
<th>touch your tummy</th>
<th>touch your nose</th>
<th>touch your toes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><img src="image5.png" alt="Image" /></td>
<td><img src="image6.png" alt="Image" /></td>
<td><img src="image7.png" alt="Image" /></td>
<td><img src="image8.png" alt="Image" /></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>put up two arms</th>
<th>touch your head</th>
<th>touch your shoulders</th>
<th>put out your arm</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><img src="image9.png" alt="Image" /></td>
<td><img src="image10.png" alt="Image" /></td>
<td><img src="image11.png" alt="Image" /></td>
<td><img src="image12.png" alt="Image" /></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Circle the picture that does not belong in each row. Tell your friend why this picture does not belong.
Healthy living

Paste the stickers in the correct spaces.
Let’s talk

Look at the picture and say what each child is doing to be clean.

My name is:

TEACHER: Sign        Date
Let’s write

Trace the line to find out what these children do to stay clean.
Draw a picture of what you do to stay clean.

My name is:
Can you find the toothpaste in this picture?
Colour it in red. Trace the lines and count how many other items you can see.
Let’s write

Cut out the puzzle and put it together again.
Let's do
Cut out these pictures on the dotted lines and then sequence them.
Sequence these numbers.
Let's count. Paste the stickers in the correct places. Count how many of each item there is.

Practise the number 3.
Friends
Let’s talk

Do you have a good friend?
What makes a good friend?
What do you play with your friend?

My name is:
Circle the picture that looks the same as the first picture in each row.

Let’s write

Trace the shapes and colour them in the same colours as the pictures.
Let’s do Do what these children are doing.

- sit
- jump
- skip
- run
- hop
- dance
- roll
- walk

Let’s do Do what these children are doing.
Colour this picture. Copy the colours from the small picture.
Let’s do

Trace the lines to find their favourite clothes and then colour the balloon to match.

My name is:
Let’s talk

What do you like to do in summer?
What do you wear when it is hot?

It is summer

Paste the stickers in the correct spaces. Colour 3 apples, 3 bees, 3 tomatoes and the sun.
Circle the pictures that show what you like in the summer.

Write your name and clap the beat.

My name is:
Look at the pictures and talk about how the weather is different. Say what the children are doing and what they are wearing.
Let’s do

Circle the clothes you wear in hot weather in red, and those you wear in cold weather in blue.
Finger puppets:
Choose 1 animal and write the first letter of your name on its t-shirt. Then write the first letters of 4 of your friends’ names on the others.

Picture dominoes:
Cut out the cards on the black dotted lines and then match the numbers to the correct pictures.

Memory Game:
Shuffle the cards and pack them out face down on the table. Then, turn 2 cards at a time and see if they match. If they do, put them aside. If they don’t put them back. See if you can remember where you put them. The first one to find all the matching pairs is the winner. You can also play snap with these cards.

Toilet roll animals:
Find some empty toilet rolls. Cut out the rectangles and then glue the large rectangular pieces around the toilet rolls to cover the tubes. Now cut out the heads and stick it on the rolls at the top. Use the animal stickers and paste the faces on the heads as you like it. Paste the arms, legs and tail of each animal on the rolls. You can also draw and make your own animals.
Finger puppets:
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Puzzle:
Use the backs of the picture dominoes and build the puzzle. It helps to build the outside border first.

Memory Game:
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Make some zig zag books.
Cut on the solid lines and fold on the dotted lines.
lizard
bird
hamster
rabbit
four
five
six
seven
Cut the page off on the dotted line at the top and then glue the page to the back cover to make a pocket. Keep your cut outs here so that they don’t get lost.
Fold and paste the finger puppets and say the numbers. See instructions on page 52.
Make a rabbit and a teddy bear. See instructions on page 52.