

LESSON PLAN GUIDE

PictureBook English Reading Series — Grammar Fluency

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Category	Fluency in Key Grammar	Title	Grammar Book 11 – A Journey from Past to Present: Passive Voice
Ages	6–9	Theme	Simple Past Passive + Present Perfect Passive + 30 Human Milestones

INTRODUCTION OF THE BOOK

In this book, children explore 30 incredible human milestones — from the Mona Lisa to the launch of Sputnik 1 — while mastering the passive voice in two forms: Simple Past Passive (was/were + past participle) and Present Perfect Passive (has/have + been + past participle). This book marks an important step in the Grammar Fluency journey: the transition from casual conversation to formal, report-style language.

The 'Been' Reminder is the key to this book: children already know 'He has finished' from previous books. Now they learn to add 'been' to show that something was done to an object: 'The rocket has been launched.' This small addition unlocks a powerful and sophisticated way of writing and speaking about the world.

PASSIVE VOICE — FORMS AND STRUCTURES

Form	Structure	Example
Simple Past Passive	was / were + past participle	<i>Stonehenge was built around 3000 BC. / The Olympic Games were held in 776 BC.</i>
Present Perfect Passive	has / have + been + past participle	<i>The Mona Lisa has been displayed in the Louvre. / Rockets have been launched into space.</i>
Active → Passive	Subject + verb + object → Object + was/were + past participle	<i>People built Stonehenge. → Stonehenge was built.</i>

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Children will be able to:

- Form and use the Simple Past Passive — was/were + past participle
- Form and use the Present Perfect Passive — has/have + been + past participle
- Transform active sentences into passive form
- Contrast Simple Past Passive with Present Perfect Passive — 'It was made yesterday' vs 'It has been made'
- Use passive voice to describe historical achievements in a report-style register

LEARNING ACTIVITIES

1. Use the Been Reminder

Connect this book to previous learning. Children already know 'He has finished' — now explain the passive extension: add 'been' to show the action was done to something. Practise the transformation together: 'have made' → 'have been made', 'have visited' → 'have been visited', 'have celebrated' → 'have been celebrated'. Say each pair aloud and ask your child to repeat. This simple drill makes the pattern click.

2. Discuss History in the Making

As you explore the 30 milestones and their timelines, ask questions using the past passive and encourage your child to answer in the same form. 'When was Stonehenge built?' → 'It was built around 3000 BC.' 'When were the first Olympic Games held?' → 'They were held in 776 BC.' This Q&A format builds both receptive and productive fluency with the passive in a genuinely fascinating historical context.

3. Contrast the two passive forms

Give your child common transitive verbs — make, build, visit, fill, break, write, buy, send — and practise both passive forms side by side. 'It was made yesterday' vs 'It has been made now.' 'It was broken yesterday' vs 'It has been broken now.' Ask your child to explain the difference in meaning: the simple past passive anchors an action to a specific past time, while the present perfect passive connects a completed action to the present moment.

FOLLOW-UP ACTIVITIES

Ask your child to choose three of the 30 milestones from the book and write a short report about each one — using both passive forms. For example: 'The Eiffel Tower was built in 1889. It has been visited by millions of people.' Encourage them to add a sentence about why each milestone matters. This report-writing activity is a wonderful transition into more formal academic English and produces genuinely impressive writing from young learners.

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TEACHER'S NOTES AND TIPS

The passive voice is one of the most important structures in academic and formal English — yet it is often introduced too late or too abstractly. This book's approach of anchoring passive voice to real historical achievements is ideal: children have a genuine reason to use passive voice because historical writing naturally focuses on what was done rather than who did it. The contrast between Simple Past Passive (specific past time) and Present Perfect Passive (connected to now) is a subtle but important distinction — use the 'yesterday vs now' contrast in Activity 3 to make it concrete. For classroom settings, a class 'History Report' where each child researches and presents a milestone using passive voice creates authentic, meaningful writing practice.