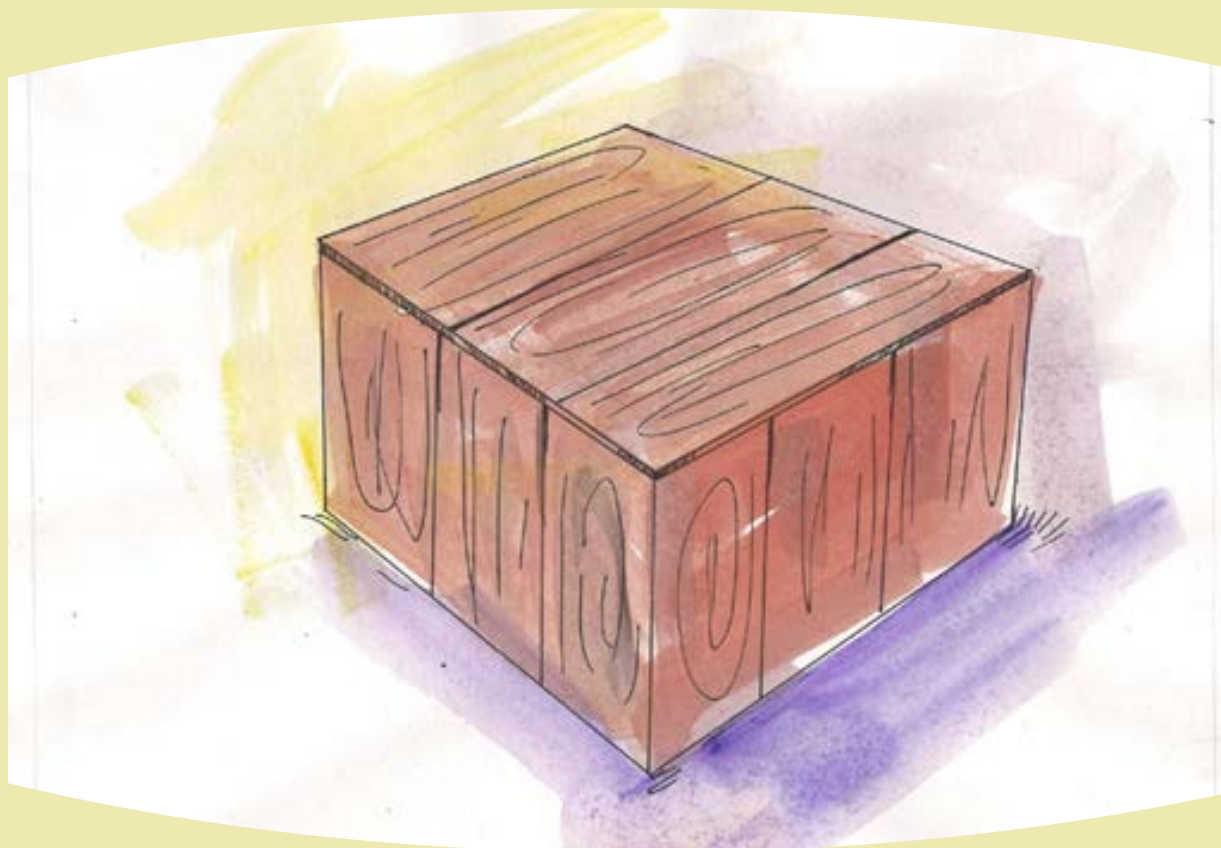
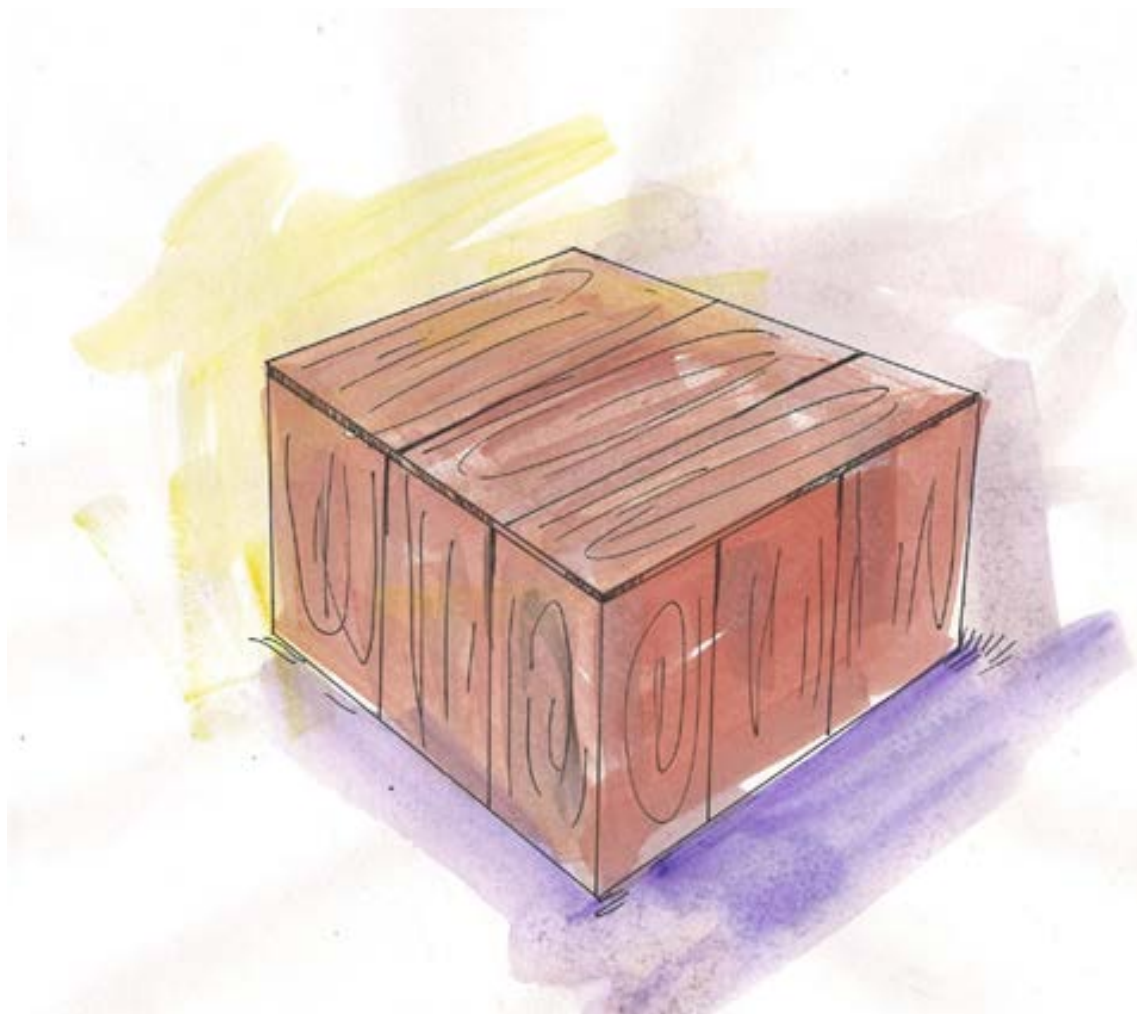


THE SECRET BOX



AUTHOR: DANIEL COOPER

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Introduction for Ministry of Education Online Early Childhood Education Teaching and Learning Materials

The Liberia Ministry of Education has developed 50 context-relevant and age-appropriate early childhood education readers. These readers would be addressing the chronic need of improving the quality of teaching and learning materials and the widespread lack of curriculum materials for foundational literacy and play-based learning. Twenty-five of these ECD readers were written by ECE master trainers and, 25 were contextualized using online open-source stories from the global digital libraries.

Welcome to this audio edition of early childhood books aligned to the Liberia Early Childhood Education Curriculum. There are 50 eBooks in this edition. The uniqueness of this Ministry of Education approach is that each book has a sign language version.

The books come in three categories or levels:

- Beginner or nursery is for children ages 3 to 4
- Intermediate or K-I is for children ages 4 to 5 and
- Advance or K-II is for children ages 5 to 6

The development and production of these books were made possible through the Bureau of Early Childhood Education of the Ministry of Education, with support from the Global Partnership for Education with funding from the World Bank. The eBooks and the accompanying audio books were designed by WE-CARE Foundation, a local educational NGO.

To access these early childhood books online, please go to the Ministry of Education website: www.moe.gov.lr

One evening, Cecelia came from school and met her parents sitting outside. She passed hurriedly without speaking to her parents.



"Cecelia," her mother called, "what are the golden rules in this house?"
"Greet your parents or any adult when you meet them," Cecelia replied.



Cecelia said, "I am sorry mommy and daddy. Something is on my mind, but I cannot talk about it now." She ran back in the house.



Everytime Cecelia came from school, she would go into her room and spend hours there without talking to anyone.



"What is going on with Cecelia?" her mother asked her dad.
"Is there something she is hiding from us?" her mother thought.



Is she in her room? Or in the kitchen? Her father tried to guess in his mind. Is she in the living room? Or in the bathroom? Her brother wanted to know.



Everyday, they tried to watch Cecelia, each time she came from school and went hurriedly into the house.



One day while Cecelia was entering the house, her mother asked, "Is there something you want us to know?" "No mama," she answered. "Please tell us," her father said.



The next day Cecelia came from school. This time she did not go into the house. She called, "Mother, father, brother, please come."



They all came hurriedly to join Cecelia in her room, trying to find out why they were called.



Cecelia went under her bed and took out a wooden box, opened it, and took out papers with drawing of her mother, father, and brother. She handed it to them and said, "A surprise gift for you my lovely family."



"This is my secret box," she told them. Everyone smiled, hugging Cecelia. Her father said, "Wow! You are smart, my beautiful daughter."



Reading Level: Beginner (Age 3 -4)

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Book Design and Images: Turvon Al Weah

Authors: Gii-Hne Russell, Fouzi Snorton

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Synopsis

Look into the secret box with Cecelia. What do you think she will find?

