With 365 Richly Hand-Colored Engravings by Edmund Evans, An Attractive Copy in the Scarce Deluxe Binding


Sixteenmo. 108 pp., plus ruled interleaving. With a wood-engraved frontispiece and an engraving for every day of the year, all richly hand-colored and decorated in gold.

Publisher’s deluxe blue leather binding, titled in gilt. Some edgewear. All edges gilt. Brown endpapers, with the undated pencil signature of a W.M. Salter to front flyleaf and an 1881 gift inscription to preliminary blank. Some notations to ruled interleaving identifying birthdays, mostly in the Salter family (dated from 1878-1910). Clean and crisp throughout. In a modern custom chemise and slipcase. A very good, bright copy in the scarce deluxe binding, rarely found in this condition.

$500

Fourth edition. First published in 1872. All editions are uncommon, and the deluxe bindings are particularly scarce. We could locate only one copy in the deluxe binding in commerce at this time.
Edmund Evans (1826 – 1905) was a wood engraver and printer whose work in chromoxylography helped popularize full-color printing in the mid-nineteenth century. Some of his most important works were his engravings for illustrators like Walter Crane, Kate Greenaway, and Randolph Caldecott. Evans’ engravings appeared in Greenaway’s iconic books Under the Window (1879) and Mother Goose (1881), fifty toybooks illustrated by Crane, Caldecott’s The Diverting History of John Gilpin (1878), and many more. See McLean’s Victorian Book Design (pp. 152-158) for more information on Evans.

7¾ in. x 10 in. 38 pp. With forty-four text figures and eight fabric samples laid in (five with an accompanying thread sample and needle each, two with just thread samples). Also with a large fold-out paper bodice pattern and a small brown paper envelope containing two buttons. Remarkably complete, as sewing instruction kits like this are rarely found with the original fabric, needles, thread, and buttons.

Light brown paper front cover stapled to stiff board backing at top edge. Text in black and a red-and-black vignette. Foxing to first and last page. Otherwise, a very clean copy, near-fine with the original brown stiff card envelope.

$500

Fourth edition. This is number two in a series. All editions and all numbers in the series are rare, with only a few copies of numbers one, two, and three recorded in OCLC, and no copies of any other numbers. None of the copies recorded in OCLC are first editions. OCLC records two physical copies of number two in the series (a third and a fourth edition).

Instructs students in both basic and complex stitches; sewing hems, seams, and buttonholes; attaching buttons; and sewing cuffs, sleeves, ties, collars, bodices, and petticoats.

Margaret Josephine Blair (b. 1863) was installed as head of the Domestic Arts at the University of Minnesota by Virginia Meredith in 1897. She also wrote Manual of Exercises in Hand Sewing, Adopted by Industrial and Grade Schools (1904) and the very successful Margaret J. Blair’s System of Sewing and Garment Drafting (also 1904).
Rare Paper Dollhouse Kit
Emblematic of 1920s Craftsman Design


Envelope (16 ½ x 13”) enclosing three leaves (one 16¼ x 12½”, two 12½ x 9”). All richly printed in color. The larger leaf is a rug and the two smaller leaves are printed with furniture pieces to be cut out and assembled into a living room scene. The rug and some of the furniture items are designed in a pseudo-“oriental” style.

Buff paper envelope printed in color with an illustration advertising the four possible “One Room” model home scenes. Wear and toning to edges of envelope, creases fragile. The leaves within are clean and bright. A very good copy of a rare and fragile item.

$600

First edition. This is one in a series of four “One Room” kits (the other rooms sets were dining room, bedroom, and kitchen).

Activity kits like the present item were popular educational tools because they inspired children’s creativity and helped them practice fine motor skills and techniques that transferred to art lessons (like cutting with scissors and folding paper). The present kit is for its distinctly Arts and Crafts era design. The kit includes a model of a Stickley-style settee, Tiffany-style lamps, and a porcelain vase emblematic of the “oriental” interior design trend of the era.

8½ in. x 12½ in. [8] ff., printed on one side only. Four pages printed in color with illustrations of paper dolls and clothing, and four pages printed in black with outlines to color in.

Publisher’s cream-colored paper wrappers printed in color with an illustration of four girls dressed to travel. Some toning to wrappers. Spine split halfway, resulting in a few loose leaves (laid in at original position). A few of the outlines have been partially colored in a child’s hand. A good copy of a rare and fragile set of paper dolls.

$100

First edition.

Four different paper dolls (matching the girls illustrated on the wrappers) with their own sets of charming 1930s dresses, hats, overalls, and coats. The blank paper dolls encourage children to copy the colors from the printed designs (or invent their own color schemes) and play with their own creations along with the pre-colored dolls.

OCLC records no copies.
5. [FROEBEL.] SIBLEY, Ruth. [Collection of ephemera relating to a beginning kindergarten teacher.] [Froebel League of New York City, 1912-1915.]

With eleven pieces of ephemera: two ALS (in envelopes), three invitations to events held by the Froebel League of New York City, one typed and signed employment contract for the Froebel League, a brochure on the Department of Education of New York City kindergarten teacher’s license exam, and the sixteenth annual report of the Froebel League (April 1915).

White, tan, and buff paper leaves. Some toning and creasing. Scrapbook glue remnants on versos of a few items. A very good set of ephemera documenting a kindergarten teacher’s employment by the Froebel League of New York City.

$500

The date on the employment contract indicates that Ruth Sibley was hired by the Froebel League of New York City as an assistant in the kindergarten in May 1912. The two letters (between Sibley and Isabella Goodrich Breckenridge, the secretary of the Froebel League) indicate that Sibley departed in May of 1914, seemingly for another teaching position. Breckenridge expresses her appreciation for Sibley’s work with the organization. It also seems that Sibley took the test for her teacher’s license in June of 1913, though it’s unclear whether she achieved her license at that time.

The Froebel League of New York City was comprised of a kindergarten; training classes for teachers, mothers, and governesses; and lectures in literature, science, music, and more. The goal of the organization was both to teach children in a classroom environment and provide mothers and other caretakers with the tools to teach children at home. The organization taught courses in educational theory using Froebel’s *Mother Play*, *Education of Man*, and *The Pedagogics of the Kindergarten* as central texts, as well as courses in philosophy, psychology, childhood development, and health. The Froebel League employed many women educators, including Susan Blow, Vassar College professor and physician Dr. Elizabeth B. Thelberg, and University of Chicago professor Ella Flagg Young.

Froebel Gift Album with Seventy-Six Parquetry Samples

6. [FROEBEL GIFTS.] DALBY, Ethel M. [Album of parquetry samples.] [ca. 1910.]

10 ¼ in. x 8 ½ in. [38] ff. With seventy-six samples of Froebel Gifts seven (parquetry).

Brown pebbled binder stamped in gilt with the name of Ethel M. Darby. Gilt title on cover reads “Weaving and Cutting” (which does not match the contents of the album). Edgewear to boards. Original ties worn away. A very good example of a Froebel Gift album, featuring gift seven (parquetry), which is not often seen in these albums.

A unique item.

$600

Friedrich Froebel (1782-1852), the inventor of the kindergarten, developed his Gifts between about 1830 and 1850. These twenty activities, which varied in complexity, were intended for young children to preteens. Many of the Gifts could be fashioned through materials available at home or in any classroom, but publishers like the Milton Bradley Company also distributed the materials for the Gifts in kits for parents and teachers. Through the Gifts, educators were able to use the concept of “learning through play” to teach students abstract reasoning, problem-solving, artistry, and other skills that would prepare them for a life of creativity and independent thinking.

The parquetry Gift (number seven) invites students to arrange simple geometric shapes (triangles, circles, squares) into larger geometric designs or into scenes. Parquetry, in comparison to gifts like paper-folding and sewing, is not often found in these sample albums, perhaps due to the popularity of parquetry kits and puzzles that used tiles of wood or stone as opposed to paper. This Gift, as well as gifts eight and nine, can be seen as a thematic bridge between the earlier gifts that focused on physical objects (like building blocks and felt balls) and the abstract gifts later in the progression (like drawing, sewing, and paper-weaving).

With Twenty-Three Remarkably Skillful Paper-Weaving Samples
In Unusually Attractive Condition


6 in. x 6¼ in. Twenty-three skillful samples of gift number fourteen in over a dozen colors of paper, including metallic gold, silver, and bronze.

Accordion bound in original brown cloth titled “WEAVING / S.N.K.T.S.” in gilt. Original brown ribbon ties at fore-edge. Light general wear and some light soiling to samples. A very good, remarkably precise and advanced example of a unique Froebel gift album.

$1,850

These skillful samples feature gradient techniques using three to four different shades in the same piece. Of the twenty Froebel gifts, paper-weaving is number fourteen.
Eleven Attractive Paper-Weaving Samples

8. [FROEBEL GIFTS.] [Paper-weaving sample album.] [n.d., ca. 1900.]

8 ½ x 10 ½ [28] ff. With eleven paper-weaving samples in black and mint green (otherwise the album is blank).

Black cloth boards, lacking front cover. Buff paper leaves accordion bound with black cloth strips at edges. Some toning and offsetting, mostly from one sample onto a facing blank. A very good example of a Froebel Gift album.

$600

A well-executed and unique example of Froebel gift fourteen. The techniques shown here include weaving in straight rows and columns, checkerboard patterns, zigzags, and perpendicular designs, as well as lettering and the silhouette of a dog in one design.

There is no indication of the student who created this album.
9. [FROEBEL GIFTS.] [Paper-weaving and embroidery sample album.] [n.p., n.d., ca. 1890?]

8 x 11 in. [21] ff. With twenty samples of Froebel gift fourteen (paper-weaving) executed in red and black glossy paper. Also with thirteen samples of gift twelve (sewing/embroidery) in over a dozen colors of thread.

Accordion bound in the original black cloth album. Some wear to extremities. Leaves are bound together with brown cloth strips at edges. Block of leaves loose within album. A couple open tears on one leaf reinforced with document tape. Some offsetting from thread, as usual. A very good example of an unusually attractive and skillfully made Froebel gift album.

$1,500

The samples collected here demonstrate a remarkable level of skill, precision, and aesthetic understanding. While similar Froebel Gift albums demonstrate basic or intermediate execution of the Gifts — understandably, as they were used by children — these albums showcase this student’s rare expertise and artistry.
A Remarkable Example of a Froebel Gift Album
With Samples of Six Different Gifts

10. [FROEBEL GIFTS.] ROCHE, Kate. [Album with samples of six Froebel Gifts.] [ca. 1910.]

10¾ in. x 9¾ in. [100] ff., fifteen of which are blank. With over two hundred skillfully executed samples of six Froebel Gifts: parquetry, sewing, interlacing (with both wood and paper strips), paper-weaving, paper-folding, and paper-cutting. Also with six fabric samples (to demonstrate weaving) and a one-page collage. Samples are mounted on both sides of leaves. Manuscript section labels in black ink throughout, plus a teacher’s grading notes in red ink. Paper-cutting makes up the majority of the samples (about a hundred), many of which are extremely complex and are labeled in black as original designs.

Original black cloth album. Wear to joints and rubbing to cloth, as is usually seen with albums of this type. Original ties at fore-edge detached from upper board (still attached at lower board). Gray stiff card pages interleaved with protective tissue. A remarkably thorough example of a unique Froebel Gift album. Very good.

$2,000

Froebel Gift sample albums of this kind are rarely found with examples of more than two or three Gifts, and most albums focus on just one. In addition, gift seventeen (interlacing) with actual wooden strips is
rarely included in Gift albums, and its appearance here is notable. The present album was clearly completed by an older student (or perhaps even a teacher in training) with a particular mastery of paper-folding and sewing. The instructor’s notes in red are also an interesting facet, as they offer some insight into the process of teaching the Gifts and grading their execution.
Rare Froebel Gift Activity Kit


Box (5½” x 7½” x 1”) enclosing instruction leaf (2 pp., 5” x 7”), nine completed paper-weaving projects (various sizes), strips of colored paper, two paper mats (through which to weave the strips), and a thin metal tool to use in weaving (8” long). To the best of our knowledge, the paper strips and mats enclosed here are the original materials issued with the kit.

Patterned paper-covered board box with color-printed paper onlay showing a scene of young women doing paper-weaving. Some wear, mostly to box lid. Chipping to edges of instruction leaf. Some creasing to edges of paper-weaving samples. A very good example of this rare Froebel Gift activity kit.

First edition.

Paper-weaving is Froebel Gift number fourteen. This Gift requires students to entwine thin strips of colorful paper to make geometric designs. The strips are often woven into a larger piece of paper that has a pattern of slits cut into it. Gift fourteen revisits and refines concepts in Gifts seven (sticks) and eight (parquetry), which both involve geometric pattern creation.

Milton Bradley published the first American book on the kindergarten, Paradise of Childhood, in 1869 and within the next few years was publishing these Froebel Gifts activity kits, plus kindergarten manuals, newsletters, and children’s books. Froebel Gift activity kits that include the instructions and materials for completing the activities are particularly scarce. Albums that contain students’ completed Froebel Gift projects (e.g., samples of paper-weaving, embroidery, and paper-folding) are generally scarce in commerce, but kits such as the present item are rarely found.

OCLC records no copies. We could not locate any other copies in commerce at this time.
Eight Colorful Paper-Weaving Samples

12. [FROEBEL GIFTS.] WEBB, Mary. [Album with eight paper-weaving samples.] [n.p., 1888.]

8 in. x 8 in. [6] ff. (some with paper-weaving on both sides). With eight full-page paper-
weaving samples, each in two colors of paper (green, brown, pink, blue, black, white, etc.)

Accordion bound in buff paper self-wrappers. Slight dampstaining to edges of wrappers. Contempo-
rary ink ownership signature of a Mary Webb and date to front cover. Internally quite clean
and attractive. A very good example of a Froebel gift album.

Dated October 1888 on front cover.

$750

This is a colorful and well-executed example of Froebel gift fourteen. The techniques shown
here include weaving in straight rows and columns, zigzags, and perpendicular designs, as well as
attractive color-matching within the samples. The album also shows a difficulty progression from
basic patterns to the more complicated designs.
Educational Game for Children, 
Reminiscent of Scrabble


Box (5½” x 4¾” x 2”) enclosing 4 pp. instruction booklet (5¼” x 7½”) and approximately two hundred tile game pieces (¾” x ¾”). Each stiff card tile is printed on one side with a letter.

Light brown hinged wooden box. The clasp to shut the box has mostly broken away. Small crack to box lid. Some staining. The game tiles and instruction sheet are clean and fresh. The instruction sheet is creased in the middle, as issued, to fit into the box. A very good example of this rare educational game teaching language skills.

$450

“The Game of Words and Sentences” is a sort of fast-paced combination of a pattern matching game and Scrabble. The instruction sheet directs players to draw letter tiles from the box at random and arrange them on a tabletop in alphabetical order. Any player can “steal” letters from the pool on the table and rearrange them into words, but players can also steal from other players to make new words and sabotage their competitors. The present game would be a useful tool in teaching children spelling, vocabulary, and quick thinking in a friendly competitive environment.

Scrabble was invented in 1938 by Alfred Mosher Butts as a variation on Lexiko, another word game he invented in 1931. “The Game of Words and Sentences” does not seem to have any direct tie to Scrabble aside from both games being distributed by the Milton Bradley Company, but the similarities in gameplay are clear. Conceptually, the Game of Words and Sentences can be seen as a less structured and more child-friendly precursor to Alfred Butts’ word games.

OCLC records no copies.
Rare and Remarkably Complete Multiplication Puzzles


Six puzzles (11 x 8”) and three circular color printed paper holders for puzzle pieces (3” diameter) enclosed in a box (14 x 12”). Each puzzle is printed in full color and has nine pieces that fit into a larger image. Each piece has a multiplication problem on its verso and fits into a matching space that shows the answer to the problem and text in German.

Red card box lettered in silver and with a glossy color printed onlay. Paint or ink stain to lid of box, some rubbing to edges. Inside of box lid printed in German with directions for the puzzle. The puzzles and paper holders are bright and clean. With all the puzzle pieces present, this is a remarkable survival, a rare mathematics teaching tool in very good condition. $750

First edition. OCLC records no copies. We could not locate any other copies on the market at this time (June 2022).

The German text in the puzzle piece spaces are simple sentences that add a basic reading component to the puzzle. The text seems to rhyme with the solution to the math problem: for example, 8 x 8 = 48, *Achtundvierzig*, which rhymes with “Mein Brüderlein ist lieb und herzig.”

We could not find any information on the artist or publisher of this puzzle in the sources available to us.
15. [GAMES - EDUCATIONAL] La Scatola dei Giocattoli per Imparare a Leggere, a Scrivere e a Contare. [Sampierdarena, Genoa, Italy: Alfabetiere Internazionale Pollano, ca. 1930.]

Box (16½” x 11”) enclosing two wooden game boards (15” x 9½”) and wooden tiles corresponding to every letter of the alphabet (in both lowercase and capitals with cursive letters on versos, plus accented vowels) numbers zero to nine, punctuation marks, and math symbols. The verso of the box lid is also a game board. The paper-covered game boards are printed in color with images and their corresponding names (e.g., an image of a soldier is combined with “soldato”) and a space for children to copy the word using the wooden game pieces. Each letter, number, and symbol have multiple copies of each corresponding game piece. It is unclear how many corresponding pieces were issued per character (and if the number of game pieces relates to the frequency of the characters in language, like in Scrabble), but each character has between three and six pieces.

Wooden box with color-printed paper onlay illustrated with a scene of children playing the game. Some wear and soiling to box lid and some cracking at edges. Game boards inside are quite clean and bright despite a bit of rubbing. A very good copy of this rare educational game.

$2,250

First edition. The text on the box lid notes that this game is more elaborate than other
games produced at the time, being the only model with both capital letters and cursive, and with the vowels printed in a different color than the consonants (blue and red, respectively).

We could not locate any copies in commerce at this time.

4¾ x 3¾ x ¾ in. Includes sets II – Addition (100 cards), III – Subtraction (100 cards), IV – Multiplication (100 cards), V – Division (89 cards out of 100). Flash cards measure 2 x 3 in. and each have a notch in the left hand corner (presumably for easy removal from the box). Each card has a math problem on one side and the answer on the other.

Original colored paper over card boxes. Corners of box bases reinforced with paper. Boxes somewhat sunned and some soiling to paper. Despite missing cards, still a very good collection of these rare flash card sets.

$450

First edition. Two other sets were issued: set I, which teaches the numbers from zero to twenty; and set III, which is a supplemental subtraction set. Also issued with a teacher’s manual that is not present here. OCLC shows one record for the full collection of six boxes and the teachers manual but does not specify a holding library. OCLC locates one other copy of the teacher’s manual (the Royal Danish Library in Copenhagen).

We could not locate any information on who created these cards. Set I (not included here) includes domino dots and illustrations by Margaret Iannelli (b. 1893), a commercial artist and pupil of John Vanderpoel.
College Education in “Homemaking [and] General Scientific Culture” for Women


Quarto. 40 pp. Illustrated on nearly every page with photo reproductions of young women in home economics classes, plus vignettes by Alma Schulmerich printed in black.

Publisher’s pictorial brown paper wrappers printed in blue, orange, and black. Spine split about halfway up, causing some leaves to come loose (laid in at original positions). Contemporary pencil marginalia seemingly made by an editor (correcting word choice, layout, etc.). A good, clean, and fresh copy of a rare item.

$100

Issue 437 of the Oregon State Agricultural College Bulletin (December 1927).

The present item describes the home economics program at the Oregon State Agricultural College (now Oregon State University), which had opened its doors to women within the last decade. Women who entered the home economics program at the college studied “the principles of homemaking together with general scientific culture,” as well as general education courses in English, art, history, chemistry, zoology, and languages. Students could earn a Bachelor of Science degree through the program, which was meant to prepare women for careers as costume designers, restaurant managers, cooks, dieticians, journalists, teachers, and more.

Zelta Feike Rodenwold (1895 – 1987) is identified on the title-page as the Secretary of the School of Home Economics, 1919-21; Secretary of the Alumni Association, 1921-26; and Editor Alumnus 1921-27. She graduated from Oregon State Agricultural College in the class of 1919. Illustrator Alma Schulmerich was part of the class of 1928.

OCLC records one copy (National Agricultural Library in Maryland).
Health Guides for Girls by the Author of the First Kotex Educational Pamphlets


Both 3¾ in. x 4¾ in. [12] pp. each.

Both pamphlets in green paper wrappers. Some marking from a paperclip on one pamphlet. A very good set of these educational pamphlets. $100

First edition, fourth printing of *Marjorie May’s 12th Birthday*. First edition of the other title. Both titles are scarce.

The *Marjorie May* series was published by Kotex in the 1920s and 30s to promote its products and educate girls about pregnancy, menstruation, and anatomy. *Marjorie May’s 12th Birthday* teaches girls how to use menstrual products and keep a calendar of their periods. It also encourages mothers to put together a kit of Kotex products and *Marjorie May* booklets, leave it where a daughter would find it in private, and “she will immediately know that Mother has again proved to be her best friend.” *Marjorie May Learns About Life* is a more advanced follow-up that explains reproduction.

Mary Pauline Callender (1905 – 2005) is credited with writing the first Kotex educational booklets on menstruation. She may also have been the first actual person named in a menstrual hygiene ad in the United States. Along with her writing career, she also worked in television advertising and film (Museum of Menstruation website).
Industrial Art Instruction Inspired by Pestalozzi and Froebel


Octavo. 64 pp. With fifty-eight large and elaborate text diagrams demonstrating geometry, perspective, reflection, and shading in art.

Publisher’s gray cloth titled in gilt. Fading, edgewear, and some soiling to cloth. University library bookplate, dated 1901. Light foxing and some toning to leaves. A good copy of an uncommon book by an important art educator inspired by Pestalozzi and Froebel.

$300

First edition.

An advanced drawing guide demonstrating how to use geometry, perspective, reflection, and shading in art, particularly in the rendering of architecture. Hermann Krüsi (1817 – 1903) was passionate about properly preparing students for careers in industrial art, and the present work is one of his titles on the topic. Krüsi also published *A Progressive Course of Inventive Drawing* (1850), co-authored by W.J. Whitaker, which presented a beginning art curriculum for younger students. Though *Inventive Drawing*
and *Principles of Perspective* were not intended as entries in a series, the present work can be seen as a second step for older students to hone their drawing abilities.

Krüsi was an important educator inspired by the work of Froebel and Pestalozzi, the latter of whom had been a friend of his father’s and, in Krüsi’s words, had “acted as one of my godfathers,” (Krüsi’s *Recollections of My Life*, p. 7). Krüsi published the present work shortly before educator E.A. Sheldon (1823 – 1897) recruited him to work at the Oswego Primary Teachers’ Training School. The work received a positive review in the *Massachusetts Teacher, and Journal of Home and School Education* (October 1857): “The arrangement is natural and systematic, and the style easy and agreeable; in the statement of principles the author is clear and direct; he deals in no abstractions, but gives the results of extended research and a large experience…We regard it as one of the best (if not the best) manuals of the kind yet published,” (p. 496). Krüsi also published *Pestalozzi: His Life, Work, and Influence* (1875), plus other educational texts.

Quarto. 44 pp. Illustrated on nearly every page with multiple printed line drawings of essential shapes in art: basic shapes, more complex illustrations of scenery and architectural features, circular patterns reminiscent of a mandala or spirograph, the fleur-de-lis and other ornamental designs, and more.

Publisher’s dark brown cloth with blindstamped border and title (enclosed in a spirograph design). Binding is bright and attractive despite some rubbing to extremities. Pale yellow endpapers with 1856 signature (Emma Pitchford). Light toning and occasional foxing. A very good copy of a scare book.

$750

First edition. Identified as “Part I” (of a projected set of two volumes) on the title-page, but it seems that a second volume was never published.

Influential art educators Hermann Krüsi (1817 – 1903) and W.J. Whitaker intended the present work for teachers of young students, who would develop “a correct knowledge of form with tasteful application,” (p. 1). The introduction states that course would both develop students’ creative skills and prepare them for education in
industrial art. In the present work, the authors differentiate between the limiting method of teaching children to copy drawings done by others and the true creativity inspired by the methods of Pestalozzi and Froebel. Rather than instructing teachers to draw on a blackboard and have students copy the design, the authors recommend tactile examples: for example, giving students thin strips of wood to arrange into lines and geometric shapes, then instructing the students to draw those shapes from life. The influence of Pestalozzi and Froebel’s philosophies of learning through play, as well as the Froebel Gifts, are evident in the course of instruction plotted by the authors.

Pestalozzi had been a friend of Krüsi’s father and, in Krüsi’s words, had “acted as one of my godfathers,” (Krüsi’s Recollections of My Life, p. 7). Krüsi also published Principles of Perspective (1857) and Pestalozzi: His Life, Work, and Influence (1875).

OCLC records seven copies, only three in North America (U Kansas, Boston PL, Harvard).
Astronomy for Children


Octavo. [4], 246, [2] pp. Frontispiece and dozens of text figures and full-page illustrations depicting astronomical phenomena, planets, telescopes, the moon, and more.

Publisher’s color-printed paper boards illustrated with two children observing the stars. Green cloth spine stamped in black and gilt. Edgewear and some dustsoiling. Front hinge a bit worn at gutter, but holding firm. A very good copy of an uncommon book that is not often found in this condition.

$250

First edition of one of the first titles in the Harry & Nelly Marlow series of educational books for children on astronomy, botany, philosophy, history, and more. The present work features a professor character explaining astronomy to curious children Harry and Nelly Marlow. Another early title in the series was Eyes Right by Adam Stwin (pseudonym of James Richardson), which was published in the same year (we have not been able to determine priority).

Laura D. Nichols also wrote Underfoot (1881), Up Hill and Down Dale (1886), Nelly Marlow in Washington (also 1886), Lotus Bay (1889), and A Norway Summer (1897). We could not locate any other information on Nichols and Annie Moore, and both of their names may have been pseudonyms.

Leonard Waldo worked for the Harvard College Observatory through the 1870s before becoming the director of the Winchester Observatory at Yale. He worked with the very first members of the Harvard Computers, a group of women employed by the Harvard College Observatory to process large quantities of astronomical data, and even appears as a comedic figure in an 1879 spoof musical written about the observatory staff by computer Williamina Fleming (1857 – 1911). Waldo published papers on thermometry, the 1878 solar eclipse, and Mars.

The Value of Equal Education for Women
By Two Members of the Mott Family


Twelvemo. [5], 6-84, [3], 4-24, [1], 4-24, [2 index] pp. With two appendices by James Mott: “Brief Hints to Parents & General Principles” and “Hints to Young People.” The former appendix has its own half-title, but the latter does not (as issued). Despite odd pagination, work is complete.

Publisher’s dark brown cloth. Cloth chipped away at head of spine. Some soiling to cloth and rubbing to extremities. Foxing throughout. A good copy of a book by Abigail Mott Moore and James Mott, the sister-in-law and husband of Lucretia Mott, respectively.

$450

Second edition, expanded with the appendices by James Mott (1788 – 1868). First published by Mahlon Day in 1825. All editions are rare in commerce.

Abigail Mott Moore (1795 – 1846) and her brother James Mott were Quaker abolitionists and activists. Both Moore and Lucretia Coffin Mott (1793 – 1880), James’ wife, were crucial figures in the suffrage movement of their day, with Lucretia serving as the lead speaker at the Seneca Falls Convention in 1848. James was the chair of the Convention.

All three members of the Mott family were staunch supporters of educational reform, and advocated for women’s education and new approaches to teaching children. James also wrote Observations on the Education of Children (1816), which advocated for a kind, respectful approach to teaching and raising children that respected them as rational beings. Moore also authored Remarks on the Present Mode of Educating Females: Being a Copious Abridgement of Miss Hannah More’s Strictures on Female Education (1825) and Biographical Sketches and Interesting Anecdotes of Persons of Colour (1826), which collected first-person narratives that Moore had supposedly heard from Black and Native people during her travels.
Developing Social Skills and Creativity Through Educational Roleplay


Box (9 x 11½ x 3 in.) enclosing forty-nine (of fifty-two) die-cut, color-printed board figures. With a 2-pp. teacher’s instruction sheet on color-printed Instructo Products Co. letterhead and plastic stands for the figures. The figures include backgrounds of home interiors, family members, pets, and furniture.

Enclosed in a light green plastic box with a hinged clasping lid. Titled on color-printed labels (one on box lid and one on side of box). Some wear to hinges and labels and some chipping to edges of instruction sheet. The board figures are bright and clean. Despite a few lacking pieces, a very good, attractive example of this rare educational tool that teaches creativity, social skills, organization, and sharing through roleplay.

First edition.

$600

The teacher information sheet reads, “This kit contains illustrations which fit into various groupings, improving organizing and classifying skills. Picture interpretation and creative thinking are fostered as children identify each illustration and create various scenes. Further, the kit extends their backgrounds of experience and enlarges their previous understandings of possible home and family relationships. Social skills, learning to share ideas and materials, and communicating thoughts and feelings, develop as children work together using the activity kit and share the product of their work with their classmates.”
The theory behind this kit stems from the Open Education movement of the mid-twentieth century, which focused on creativity and learning through play, especially through roleplaying and group storytelling among children. Friedrich Froebel pioneered methods of educating through play, which influenced the Open Education movement and continue to undergird early childhood education in the western world. Elements of psychoanalysis and child therapy techniques are also apparent in the theory behind this kit — roleplaying, processing home life and family relationships through abstract methods (e.g., telling stories and playing with toys), and developing social skills through cooperative play with other children.

OCLC records no copies.
Rare Color-Printed Paper Doll Set
Educating Children on Math and Budgeting


12½ x 10 in. [8] ff. Every leaf printed in full color on one side with paper dolls and scenery pieces, each with perforated edges. A complete copy with over two hundred pieces.

Color printed card self-wrappers titled in black. Some chipping to wrappers. Narrow tear to fore-edge of back cover (touching corner of one illustration). A very good, bright, and clean copy of a rare item.

First edition.

$375

A paper doll kit that children could assemble into a grocery store scene. The cut-out bills could be used to practice math, budgeting, and buying. Fern Bisel Peat (1893 – 1971) was a prolific children’s book illustrator, painter, and interior designer. She opened an interior design studio with her husband, where she designed textiles, murals, and wallpaper, home goods, and toys.

OCLC records two copies, one in Canada (Toronto PL) and one in Japan.


Color printed paper wrappers illustrated by Eulalie Banks. A couple patches of minor toning to wrappers. A bright, clean, near-fine copy of this rare catalogue with the original mailing envelope (addressed to San Ramon, California) and a typed letter on Platt and Munk Co. stationery.

$450

First edition of this 1931 catalogue. This seems to be one of the earliest Platt and Munk children’s book catalogues. OCLC locates no copies, and we could not locate any other copies of the 1931 catalogue in the trade at this time.

Eulalie Minfred Banks (1895 – 1999) was a painter and children’s book illustrator. Born in England, Banks spent her later years in Southern California, where she painted murals for Charlie Chaplin, Ann Harding, and Harold Lloyd. Banks also painted a mural in the old Santa Monica Public Library Boys and Girls room.

The Platt and Munk Company is best known for publishing the first edition of the children’s story The Little Engine that Could.


Original orange-and-blue printed paper wrappers illustrated with posters sold by the association. Back over printed with an advertisement for the “Knighthood of Youth” school club for elementary school children. Minor chipping and foxing to wrappers. A very good, clean, and bright copy of a rare and fragile item.

$375

First edition.

These posters, which were intended for purchase by public schools for display in classrooms, promote healthy eating, exercise, hygiene, mental health, and more. The section of the catalog that showcases the posters related to mental health is particularly interesting: one poster discusses the mental health ramifications of insomnia, while another lists symptoms
associated with what we now call anxiety disorders and ADHD. Another section of the catalog advertises the poster set *Children from Many Lands* (1923) by Fanny L. Warren and Mary S. Haviland, which promotes the acceptance of foreign cultures (see item #31 in this catalogue).

The National Child Welfare Association created classroom teaching materials, primarily posters, for public schools. They produced these materials during the Progressive movement, which saw a boom in federal welfare programs and was responsible for mother’s pension laws (forerunners of the Social Security Act) and the founding of the National Child Labor Committee.

OCLC records only one copy (Yale).
27. [SEWING AND TEXTILES.] [DURY, Lorraine.] [Portfolio of classwork for a University of Minnesota correspondence course in textiles and home economics.] [Wisconsin: Green Bay, ca. 1930s]

9 in. x 11½ in. 200 pp. (approximately) of mimeographed, manuscript, and typed lesson plans and completed assignments. With over three dozen pages with fabric swatches, sketches, and small artworks (including two paper weaving samples and a watercolor), plus clippings from periodicals laid-in or laid down.

Card paper homemade three-ring binder, disbound. Light creasing and wear to pages, light occasional offsetting from fabric samples. A very good, very robust example of an advanced course in textiles, sewing, and fashion that also reveals the Depression-era labor history of women in the garment industry.

$650

This portfolio represents all the skills a Depression-era woman would need to create her own garments and other textile goods: sewing, dyeing, and weaving; selecting the right fabrics from stores; repurposing discarded household items into tools to save money (e.g., a cigar box into a loom); and much more. Periodical clippings of illustrations of women weaving in industrial and commercial settings indicate that students who completed this correspondence course would not only be able to produce textile goods for their own families but also find skilled employment in the garment industry.

Lorraine Dury became an educator and writer who co-authored a 1947 textbook for fourth and fifth graders called It Happened Here with three other Green Bay-area public school teachers. Dury appeared frequently in the pages of periodicals like School Arts with her creative curriculum ideas and sharing the artwork of her students.
With 150 Expertly Executed Machine Sewing Samples


9 in x 11½ in. [40] ff. (ten left blank). With 150 mounted stitchery samples (in over a dozen colors of thread) on cloth, including many examples of elaborate machine embroidery. With accompanying typewritten instructions on how to use an Elna sewing machine. Each sample labeled in manuscript with the machine settings necessary to achieve the stitch.


$150

The machine sewing samples in the present item include different styles of stitches (both simple stitches and machine embroidery), cuffs, collars, hems, buttonholes, monograms, and more. The samples are expertly executed and neatly organized, and the typewritten instructions are thoroughly annotated. Some of the annotations reference machine settings, while others identify ideal colors of thread and note the prices of various pieces of equipment for Elna machines (“Eyelet plate: $2.45”).

The quality of the work in the present item indicates that the creator, Helen Poore, may have been training for a career as a seamstress or designer, or was already a professional learning to use an unfamiliar machine.
Fashion Design Course for the New Ready-to-Wear Industry
With Over 150 Fabric Swatches


9 in. x 11½ in. [130] ff. (approximately). With over 150 fabric swatches (most mounted, some laid in); pencil illustrations on ten pages; and sixteen pages with photo reproductions, periodical clippings, and fashion advertising material. Leaf count includes a [6] ff. packet, laid in, on “Wool Washing Experiments.” Typewritten text.

Original black card three-hole binder. Chipping to edges. Some toning throughout. Some swatches have come loose and are laid in. Graded “A+” on title-page. A remarkably thorough and well-executed fashion design workbook in very good condition.

$150

This workbook, compiled by a student named Lena Schroeder, represents an advanced curriculum in design, sewing, and fashion merchandising. The typewritten text, seemingly written by Schroeder from a variety of cited sources, details the history, production, and uses of a variety of consumer textiles including silk, wool, cotton, and flax. The fabric swatches include dozens of different types of fabrics (including denim, wool,
velvet, percale, crinoline, silk, and many more) in a rich array of colors. Some of the textiles included here are annotated with drawings of how the fibers appear under a microscope, seemingly copied from Schroeder’s own observations.

The fashion advertising materials, as well as sections of text on current fashion trends and designing clothing for the mass market, offer an insight into the purpose of the course: to train students for careers in design, fashion merchandising, and professional sewing and tailoring. In the 1920s and 30s mass-market fashion was still in its infancy, with companies including Chanel and Sears just beginning to sell ready-to-wear designs. The present item represents how the evolving desires of customers and a shift in the economics of fashion shaped design curriculum in schools.

Ten lesson cards (5¾ x 3¾) enclosed in a printed envelope (6½ x 4½). Each card printed in black with guides for drawing and penmanship. Ten cards out of twelve (lacking two).

Original beige paper envelope. Some foxing and toning. Cards are very clean. Despite the two lacking cards, still a very good, clean set, rarely found with the envelope and teacher’s guide.

Later printing? The envelope has the copyright date of 1874, but the first edition of the teacher’s guide dates to 1871. OCLC records no copies of this set of cards.

[with:]


Twelvemo. 79 pp. Text figures throughout.

Original printed beige paper boards with green cloth spine. Toning and some dampstaining. Some rubbing to edges of boards. Uniform toning due to paper quality. A very good copy.

First edition, second printing? The title-page is dated 1871 (copyright 1870), but the printed boards are dated 1872.
This is set two of four in the Bartholomew’s Primary School Drawing Cards series. The first set was published in 1870 (copyright 1869).

Jenny H. Stickney, later Lansing (b. 1840, fl. 1870-1900) was a Massachusetts editor, author, and educator. She taught at the Massachusetts State Normal School and was a prolific writer of educational texts, including Stickney’s Reading Series (1870s) and science texts for children like Bird World: A Bird Book for Children (1898). She edited and abridged the works of Charles Kingsley, Charles Livingston Bull, Hans Christian Andersen, and more. Stickney also contributed to ornithology publications like The Auk, the journal of the American Ornithologists Union.

Ten leaves (11¾ x 8¾”) printed on one side only. Eleven leaves are printed with paper doll designs of children in cultural dress (two printed in color) and one is an instruction sheet. A complete set.

Enclosed in the original color-printed buff paper envelope (12¾ x 9½”). Envelope a bit worn and chipped at edges. Leaves are fine and bright in the very good envelope.

First edition.

A complete set of these color-printed paper dolls and blank paper dolls for children to cut out and color. There are sixteen dolls total: one girl and one boy to represent eight nationalities and cultures. The dolls are titled Children of Italy, Holland, Russia, Norway, Syria, Spain, and the United States, as well as a pair of dolls titled “Navajo Indian Children.”

In the instruction sheet, Warren writes, “[These dolls] will speak to American children of the charm and friendliness of ‘other’ boys and girls.”

Fanny L. Warren wrote and illustrated many other educational tools for children, including several with the writer and educator Mary S. Haviland. Warren and Haviland frequently collaborated on materials for the National Child Welfare Association, including poster sets like *Children from Many Lands* (1923), which was also themed around acceptance of racial and ethnic differences, and *Nursery Rhymes for Healthy Habits* (1921 – 1922). The present item and these poster sets were produced at the height of the Progressive Movement, which focused on federal welfare programs and was responsible for mother’s pension laws (forerunners of the Social Security Act) and the founding of the National Child Labor Committee.

OCLC locates one copy (Brandeis University).

3 in. x 4½ in. [62] pp., paginated inconsistently. With a frontispiece and a title-page vignette.

Publisher’s blue printed paper wrappers. Some chipping to edges. Later ink notation to bottom margin of title-page. Some marginal toning. A very good copy of a scarce and fragile item. $350

First edition.

A letter-writing manual focusing on letters related to romance, matrimony, and family, also with a section on business letters. Some of the letter templates include “A Gentleman to a Lady, being his superior in rank and fortune”; “From a Gentleman to a Lady who has rejected his suit”; “From a Tenant to a Landlord, soliciting time to make payment”; “From a Young Lady to her Lover”; and “Breaking off a Match.”

OCLC records seven copies, only five in North America (NYPL, AAS, University of Michigan, Princeton, and Brigham Young).