

## Bookfolio for **Dear Mr. Henshaw**

**Author:** [Beverly Cleary](#)

**Illustrator:** Paul O. Zelinsky

**First Publication Date:** 1983

**Publisher:** William Morrow

**ISBN:** 068802405X

**Recommended for:** [Grades 4-6](#)

**Classification:** Fiction

**Genre:** [Realistic Fiction](#)

**Story Summary:** Leigh Botts writes to his favorite author throughout grade school whenever his teachers "make him." When Leigh is in sixth grade, Mr. Henshaw writes back to answer the ten questions Leigh sent to him for the Author Report assignment. Leigh is shocked, however, to see that Mr. Henshaw has also included ten questions for Leigh to answer. Leigh's letters to Mr. Henshaw evolve into a diary in which he can note his observations, describe what it's like being the new boy in school, and express his problem in coping with his parents' divorce. Through his journal, Leigh learns a great deal about writing and about himself.

**The skills for each activity are identified by the following abbreviations:  
R=Reading, W=Writing, S=Speaking, L=Listening, D=Drawing**

Dear Mr. Henshaw - Independent Activities	Skills
1. <a href="#">My Favorite Cleary Book</a> (Writing a book review)	W
2. <a href="#">Look, Listen, Think, and Write</a> (Writing a dialogue)	L , S , W
3. <a href="#">"Dear Leigh,"</a> (Writing a letter)	W
4. <a href="#">California, Here I Come</a> (Making a map)	D , R
5. <a href="#">Not in the Travel Brochures</a> (Writing a descriptive paragraph)	S , W
6. <a href="#">Flags and Symbols</a> (Drawing a picture)	D , R , W
Dear Mr. Henshaw - Group Activities	Skills
1. <a href="#">"Ways to Amuse a Dog"</a> (Making a booklet)	D , W
2. <a href="#">Dear Mrs. Cleary</a> (Writing a dialogue)	S
3. <a href="#">An Alarming Attempt</a> (Creating an invention)	R , S
4. <a href="#">Pen Pals</a> (Writing for information)	S , W
5. <a href="#">Be an Author, Too</a> (Writing a description)	L , S , W
6. <a href="#">"Let's Talk About..."</a> (Discussing the story)	L , S

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