

REAL SPECIAL TIMES

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Real Special News

To promote the first ever New Zealand Dyslexia awareness week 23 – 29th April, we are offering extra special promotions! For orders during that week only, we will give an extra 10% discount (before GST) off the following SLD / dyslexia software:

- Wordshark
- Nesy Learning Programme
- Nesy GamesPlayer
- Claro and Dragon bundle
- Type to learn

We will also hold the prices of Lexion for dyslexia / aphasia for another month!

Wordshark

It offers 41 fun different computer games which use sound graphics and text to teach and reinforce word recognition and spelling. Suitable for all ages.

www.realspecial.co.nz/wordshark.asp

Nesy Learning Programme

Nesy motivates, builds self-esteem and improves reading, spelling and writing skills for all students, but is specifically helpful for those with dyslexia / SLD. There are 12 interactive onscreen games and over 1,500 downloadable resources, including worksheets, board games, teaching points, card games etc. See our webpage for loads of free downloads! Suitable for all ages.

www.realspecial.co.nz/readingprimary.asp

Nesy GamesPlayer.

All the onscreen games of Nesy but not the printable supporting resources.

www.realspecial.co.nz/dy_nessygamesplayer.asp

Claro and Dragon bundle

The very popular Dragon Naturally Speaking 9 software is amazing – as you dictate, it will write the words for you onscreen! Claroread then will read it back for you in Real Speak voices, and will also read other documents and webpages. Dragon programme not available separately.

www.realspecial.co.nz/dy_claroread.asp

For more info see our 'Reading' – College section.

Type to learn

In Type to Learn™ 3, students of all ages embark on 25 time-travel missions to learn keyboarding skills. Excellent for those with SLD / dyslexia. Free downloadable trial.

www.realspecial.co.nz/writingprimary.asp

See our 'Writing' section.

Lexion prices held until June!

Latest update from the manufacturers - Lexion prices are not increasing until June! Lexion tests the students for SLD difficulties, produces a report and then automatically generates corrective exercises for a one-off initial outlay.

www.realspecial.co.nz/lexion.asp

See our 'Reading' or 'New product' sections for more information.

For more on what will be happening during dyslexia awareness week, go to the website of The Dyslexia Foundation of New Zealand

(www.dfnz.org.nz)

Real Special holidays

We rent the cottage and apartment as holiday homes all year and are now already taking bookings for next Christmas, New Year and summer!

www.realspecial.co.nz/holidays.asp

Featured websites



This month's 6 choices are related to Easter holiday activities and Dyslexia awareness week.

Easter crafts and activities

This site has loads of Easter activities to keep the whole family - free printable Peter Cottontail board game, colouring pages, mazes, word puzzles, ideas for Easter parties, crafts, activities, etc.

www.kidsdomain.com/holiday/easter/index.html



Easter E-cards

If you are looking for some Easter cards online, here is a site with 80 free E-cards to send to friends and family.

<http://www.123greetings.com/events/easter/>

Computer drawing programme

Free download - Drawing for Children is a wonderful way for all young children to become creative on the computer. Point and click on the icons to reveal all the aspects of the program from pens, stamps, backgrounds, special effects and so much more!!

www.kidsdomain.com/down/pc/drawingforchildren.html

Computer skills for children

Rub-a-Dub is designed for young children who are just beginning to master the hand-to-eye coordination necessary to use a mouse. Rub-a-Dub also teaches basic computer skills and prepares children for more advanced painting and drawing products.

www.arts-letters.com/rubadub/rubadub.html



Website colour changer

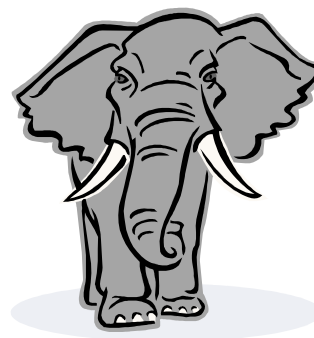
This is a free program to change your website background and text colours within Windows applications, which may help those with specific learning difficulties including dyslexia.

www.emptech.info/product_details.php?ID=2277

National Geographic colouring pages

Great holiday fun - the new online colouring book section has loads of animal pictures - just click on a picture, print and go!

www.nationalgeographic.com/coloringbook/archive/



Edith the poodle

Hi, I'm Edith, the Real Special mascot.



On the 15th April I am going to be 5 years old! I was thinking of wearing this red silk dress for the occasion – what do you think? I have also got a nice new red matching collar with diamante studs all round it so that I can really look glamorous! For this exciting birthday event, I am planning what sort of cake I would like. On the internet I have found some interesting recipes for dog birthday cakes, including Peanut butter and carrot cake, bacon chicken layer cake, carob chip, ginger banana cake and beef jerky cake!

Here is the link to a page of recipes for making birthday cakes for dogs:
http://www.party-photo-favors.com/dog_birthday_cake_recipes.htm

To celebrate dogs birthdays, you can also get some really fantastic free e-cards with a choice of sounds - barking, growling, howling or unhappy cat!
<http://www.kateconnick.com/postcards/page10a.html>

Printable dog birthday cards
http://www.printfree.com/Cards_Birthday_Animals/Half04.htm

E-cards with animals on them
www.123greetings.com/birthday/pets/

Dog postcards, also really good fun.
www.dogchow.com/Fun_Stuff/card.aspx

If anyone would like to send me an e birthday card, I have my own email:
edith@realspecial.co.nz

Edith's outfits

Due to popular demand from people wanting to see my different outfits, photographs of them are now all available on my webpage.
www.realspecial.co.nz/aboutus_edith.asp

Duck update

Peter, Paul and Mary our paradise ducks are still doing well and becoming quite a feature of our neighbourhood. When they are not in my back garden where they come for feeding at least three times a day, they can often be seen on the beach across the road (they seem to have made some new seagull friends). The ducks are getting quite fat which is a worry for my mum as Duck hunting season is coming up next month - perhaps they could wear some of my old outfits to disguise themselves? (see my duck jokes on page 4)

Sudoku for April

		2		1	6		3	
6		7	2					
					4		5	6
2		5					6	
1				6				9
	8					4		1
8	5		4					
					8	1		5
	2		6	5		3		

Easy recipe Chocolate Mousse Cupcakes

If you have got lots of chocolate left over from Easter (not very likely in our house I must say!), you might like to try making some into these really easy, yummy Chocolate Mousse cupcakes.

Ingredients:

250 grams of milk chocolate
3 eggs
¼ cup of plain flour
You also need some paper cupcake liners

Method

First, pre-heat the oven to a moderate heat 180° centigrade (35° Fahrenheit, gas mark 4).

Melt the chocolate in the microwave on medium heat in a microwave proof bowl. Do this in 30 second burst and check each time until it is ready.

Once melted, stir the flour in the chocolate.

Lightly whisk the eggs in a jug and add them to the chocolate and flour mixture, then whisk the whole mixture together.

Put the paper cupcake liners in a muffin tray and spoon the mixture into them.

Bake for 12 – 15 minutes until the outsides are set but the centres are still liquid.



Cool for about 5 minutes and then carefully peel off the cupcakes papers.

The cake will have a warm mousse centre – why not serve top it with whipped cream and shaved chocolate!

Please note – these are NOT suitable for dogs, even though Edith would like one for her birthday!

Edith's duck jokes

Q. Why did the ducks cross the road, roll in the mud, and cross back?

A. Because they are dirty double-crossers!

Q. Where do Paradise ducks come from?

A. Eggs

Q. Do you know why the ducks coop has only 2 doors?

A. If it had 4 it would be a sedan!

Sudoku solution (from page 3)

5	4	2	9	1	6	7	3	8
6	3	7	2	8	5	9	1	4
9	1	8	7	3	4	2	5	6
2	9	5	1	4	7	8	6	3
1	7	4	8	6	3	5	2	9
3	8	6	5	9	2	4	7	1
8	5	3	4	7	1	6	9	2
7	6	9	3	2	8	1	4	5
4	2	1	6	5	9	3	8	7

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