

Real Special Times

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Real Special News



Nessy on special

From 1st August, Nessy will be on special at only **\$299 + GST** (usually \$320 + GST). Nessy is also now available in multi packs:

3 pack \$785 + GST

5 pack \$999 + GST

Network versions available. No yearly licence renewal fees. Windows only

What is Nessy? It's a complete literacy scheme in one CD and has over 1,500 printable resources for students aged 4 through to adults! It includes:

- Unlimited photocopying of over 1,500 resources.
271 card games, board games, dominoes and flashcards etc to reinforce language targets.
- 12 onscreen literacy games that kids love.
- Reading and spelling assessments to set starting levels.
- Printable record sheets to track progress.

Even better - you can get a free download of the programme and over 80 free sheets of resources from our website. Click on the Nessy icon on our Home Page for the link.

New Product

Bridge to English (for ESL)

This is a brand new category of software for our company and can be found in our "Reading" section. It is designed for those learning English as a Second language. It will be helpful for beginners as well as for those who want to perfect their spelling, pronunciation and comprehension skills. The software uses the latest technology and presents a large range of study material in an easy and entertaining manner.

The course consists of 20 lessons which present all the main English grammar structures necessary for effective communication in English. A unique system, handy and easy to use - it includes vocabulary and grammar exercises, interactive dialogues, dictations, dictionary, and grammar reference. It will be available in the following languages:

- Chinese
- French
- German
- Polish
- Russian
- Spanish
- Turkish
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Price \$65 NZD + GST



Featured websites



This month's choices give information on playdough recipes, colouring sheets, how to play chess, and even an on-screen whiteboard.

www.imaginationcubed.com

This is a really fun virtual whiteboard and great for developing your hand-eye co-ordination. The simple "tool" features on the screen allow you to draw shapes, add stamps, change the background colour etc. You can even messenger friends and communicate with them on screen.



www.makeplaydough.com

Make homemade play dough, edible finger paints, strong bubbles and other fun activities. There are even edible playdough recipes - my favourite is the chocolate one that can be used to make shapes and decorations for on cakes etc.



www.freekidscoloring.com

This site has loads of printable colouring pages for those cold and rainy nights. You can also use them to make displays e.g. the 'Alphabet animal and plant sheets" are decorated capital letters that would make a great wall frieze. Click on the link on the right hand side of the home page to go to these.



www.chesskids.com

Playing chess these winter evenings? You'll enjoy this unique chess site for kids, teachers and parents. It has interactive lessons, quizzes, games and puzzles for kids and for parents who want to teach chess to their children. You can even play games against the computer. The site also provides FREE online chess books for kids - just download and print.



Edith the poodle

Hi, I'm Edith, the Real Special mascot. Well, the weather is still cold so this month so I find it quite hard to leave my nice warm basket. I like to wear my pink dressing gown as that keeps my nice and cosy.



Since I last spoke to you, I have been to a "poodles' beauty salon" to get my fur trimmed. My fur keeps me really warm so I didn't have much off, but I needed grooming so that I can keep looking beautiful! Poodles do not shed their fur so they are ideal companions for people who are allergic to cats and dogs. There are other breeds of dogs that are also good for people with allergies, such as bichon frise, schnauzers and spoodles! I prefer to keep most of my fur on but some poodles have really flamboyant designs, (such as the poodle in the picture below). This style looks quite nippy to me!



Sudoku for August

The Sudoku grid has three main elements. There are 9 columns, 9 rows and 9 blocks. Using the numbers 1 through 9, the 81 squares in the grid must be filled so that every column, row and block contains the numbers 1 through 9. No number can repeat within any column, row or block. Good luck! The solution is on page 4 of this newsletter.

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

Just for fun

Q. What part of a fish weighs the most?
 A. The scales."

"Knock knock."

"Who's there?"

"Abe."

"Abe who?"

"Abe C D E F G H..."

Q. Why do bees have sticky hair?"

A. Because they use honeycombs."

Microwave banana cake

This easy recipe takes only 5 minutes to cook in the microwave!

Ingredients:

- $\frac{1}{4}$ cup oil
- 1 egg
- $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon baking powder
- 2 small ripe bananas, mashed
- $\frac{1}{2}$ cup sugar
- A heaped half cup of plain flour
- $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon baking soda

Method

1. Cream oil and sugar.
2. Add egg and beat well.
3. Sift in dry ingredients (flour, baking powder, baking soda), mix together.
4. Fold in mashed bananas and mix.
5. Spoon the mixture into a small 19cm microwaveable plastic ring mould.
6. Cook elevated in the microwave on High for 5 minutes.
7. Leave to cool before removing from mould.
8. Can be iced when cool.

**Sudoku solution (from page 2)**

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

More jokes

Q. Why were the early days of history called the dark ages?

A. Because there were so many knights!

Q. What do people do in clock factories?"

A. They make faces all day."

Q. What runs but never walks?

A. Water

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