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Real Special News

New Nessy phonics product!

Nessy have a new product for students with dyslexia. Called **Nessy Phonic Nuggets**, this CD rom makes learning phonics fun!

To help reinforce the learning on the software, phonic flashcards are included (1 pack with the single user, 3 packs with the site licence).

Nessy Phonic Nuggets comes in single user and site license options.

Single user: \$55 + \$6.11 GST (total \$61.11)

Site license \$200 + \$22.22 GST (total \$222.22)

Develop reading skills by using animations and flash cards to link letters to sounds.

Pack of flash cards (included) to reinforce learning.

Read words and match sounds in a game of **Piranha Snap**.

40 hilarious phonic animations make learning to read easy!

Help develop strategies for decoding words. Includes phonics: *sh, ch, tch, th, wh, ge, dge, ce, ai, ay, ee, ea, ey, ie, ei, ear, oa, ow, oe, igh, y, oo, ew, ue, ui, ou, au, aw, air, wa, wor, war, ar, or, er, ir, ur.*

Being able to recognize these phonemes helps to decode words into chunks.

Watch weird and wonderful characters like the hairy fairy and yodeling yeti! The animations are included in the Nessy Learning Programme.

Compatible with both Windows and Mac

Single user CD rom with one pack of flashcards: \$48.89 + GST, total \$55

Network version with 3 packs of flashcards: \$177.78 + GST = \$200



Featured websites



This month's choices are:

Free primary school resources

Free Google blog

Free story writing resources

Free primary school resources

<http://www.sparklebox.co.uk/>

Sparklebox has so many great FREE resources for primary teachers it's hard to know where to start. There are several sections, e.g.

'Literacy' has resources for:

- alphabet and sounds
- words and vocabulary
- writing and letter formation
- stories rhymes and reading

'Numeracy' includes:

- Numbers
- Operations and calculations
- Shape, space and measures

'Topics' includes:

- Ourselves
- Weather and seasons
- Role play
- Dinosaurs
- Religion
- Fantasy



Free Google blog

<http://www.blogger.com>

If you've ever fancied setting up a blog, now it is even easier as Google have just launched a new free blog designer.

Options: Click on the "Try it now" button and the next page will give 4 options:

Template: Choose the style you like.

Background: Allows you to change the background colour or add an image as the background).

Layout: This has options: Body layout, Footer layout, Adjust width).

Advanced (this allows you to change the fonts, text colour, blog title, page colours, etc.).

Free story writing resources

<http://www.brucevanpatter.com/funstuff.html>

'Let's get creative' is the website of author and children's illustrator Bruce Van Patter. If you click on the 'funstuff' link there are some free resources to inspire students in their story illustrating and story writing, including: Mugshots – a picture of a character is provided then some questions to help you develop the personality of the character.

The Story Kitchen; the first part of the story is written and includes your choice of hero, place and villain from the list provided. Students have some prompting questions to get their imagination going so that they can complete the story.

Wacky headlines – this gives you details on how to make a card game for students to make to help them generate headlines.

Weird headline maker – the computer generates weird headlines to stimulate stories.

Edith the poodle

Hi, I'm Edith, the Real Special mascot. Thanks to our friends Anna and Amber who have just been over from the USA, I am wearing this beautiful new pink summer dress. It is soooo me! The writing says, "Girly girl" and there is even a bit of sparkly "bling" jewellery on it – perfect! I think this will definitely be a big hit at the next party I go to.



It's strange how different colours can really change your mood - pink is definitely my favourite colour as it makes me feel so happy. My mum says that having two white dogs makes her happy (mind you, Bobby dog is not always white when he gets back from running in the mud on the beach!)

I've found a nice website that helps children learn all about colour (see the link below).
<http://www.kiddyhouse.com/Themes/colors/>
It has lots of colour activities for kids, including books to print and worksheets – plenty of things to do over the NZ winter months!

Just for fun – Edith's jokes

Q: What's bright orange and sounds like a parrot?

A: A carrot.

Q: What's bright blue and very heavy?

A: An elephant holding its breath.

Q: What's green and loud?

A: Froghorn.

Q: When is it bad luck to see a black cat?

A: When you're a mouse.

Sudoku for June

The solution is on page 4.

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

Easy recipe

Chocolate chunk oat biscuits

This easy recipe is another from Jo Seagar. I love her recipes as they are always so tasty yet so simple to make. These biscuits would be great with a hot drink or as a tasty lunchbox treat.

<http://joseagar.com/recipes/category:baking-and-treats/chocolate-chunk-oat-biscuits/>



Ingredients:

250g butter, softened
3 tablespoons sweetened condensed milk
3/4 cup sugar
1 and 1/2 cups flour
1 and 1/2 cups rolled oats
1 teaspoon baking powder
200gm dark chocolate, roughly chopped or large chocolate buttons

Method:

Preheat oven to 180 degrees C.

Line two baking trays with non-stick baking paper.

Beat butter, condensed milk and sugar together until light & creamy.

Add flour, rolled Oats, baking powder and chocolate chunks.

Flatten spoonfuls on the prepared oven trays and cook for 15-20 minutes until golden brown. Cool on a wire rack and store in an airtight container.

Makes approx 24 biscuits.

Sudoku solution (from page 3)

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

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