



REAL SPECIAL TIMES



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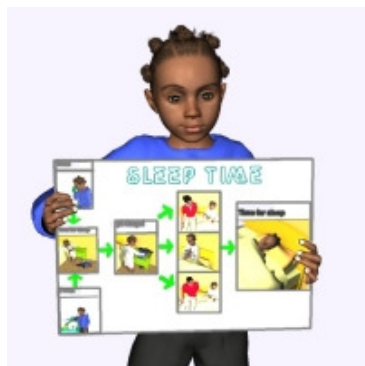
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Real Special News

We would like to wish all our customers a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. We are still open over most of the holiday period so look forward to your calls and emails.

New product

Surer Steps have a whole range of software to reinforce behaviour. Until recently these have only been for schools but now there one to help reinforce desired behaviours at home. TrackMaker enables you to break down behaviour into small steps, increasing the chance of success and shows children exactly what they need to do to access rewards. The version for home use has a picture library of home routines. \$115 + GST (total \$129.37). See our ADHD / Autism section for more details: <http://www.realspecial.co.nz/autismbehavsteps.asp>



FREE NZ scenic calendars

Orders placed this month will receive a **free** 2008 calendar.



Christmas present suggestions.

Below are some software ideas that are both fun and educational! The brackets show which section of our website they are in for more details.

Products under \$100 (inc GST)

- Mathbase 1 Home version: \$56 (Number section)
- Nessy Games Player: \$67 (reading section)
- Lucid Memory Booster (Home): \$90 (Memory section)
- Bridge to English (English lessons for ESOL students): \$73 (reading section)
- Surer Steps Reward Track: \$67.50 (ADHD Autism section)

Products under \$150 (inc. GST)

- Timestables Maths: \$112.50 (number section)
- Earobics (Home version): \$130 (reading section)
- Nessy Brainbooster: \$145 (Memory section)
- Visual timetable: \$129.37 (ADHD Autism section)
- Original Trackmaker: \$112.50 (ADHD)

Products under \$200 (inc GST)

- Wordshark - \$195 (reading section)
- Numbershark - \$175 (number section)
- Type to learn - \$180 (writing section)

Featured websites



For me, the best Christmas gifts and decorations are ones that are home-made – they show a really personal touch, are fun to do, save money and also the environment (particularly if you can make items by recycling card etc). There are lots of websites out there, below are three suggestions:

<http://www.enchantedlearning.com/crafts/christmas/handfoot/>

I particularly like this website as it has really simple ideas that children themselves can help make. The patterns are simple but effective. For example, this cute reindeer is made by drawing round a child's foot to make the head, and round the hands to make antlers! They also show you how to draw round hands to make a Christmas wreath, poinsettia flowers, and even a Christmas tree!



<http://www.dltk-holidays.com/Xmas/mcoupons.html>

Instead of a present, why not give someone your time through using Christmas Coupons? Children can print off these coupons for someone to redeem e.g. "This coupon is good for...."

- Cleaning my room
- Doing my homework
- Breakfast in bed.

There is also a blank template so you can put in any other ideas for use by adults or kids. The list of possibilities is endless e.g weeding the veggie patch, washing the car, taking the dog out etc



<http://www.allfreecrafts.com/christmas/paperback-Santa.shtml>

This site has some nice ideas about how to recycle cards once Christmas is over and decorations for the more 'craft proficient', for example, this Santa is made out of a Readers Digest!



Edith the poodle



Hi, I'm Edith, the Real Special mascot. Well, as you can see, I am making the most of Christmas with this festive outfit. Traditionally, Christmas is a time when people give each other presents but I don't think pets should miss out either! I quite fancy some home-made dog biscuits. In case you want to make some for your furry friends, I have put the link below.
<http://www.dltk-holidays.com/Xmas/recipes/dogbiscuits.htm>

Whether you have a pet or not, you can still help animals by supporting charities such as the RSPCA / SPCA. They are always in need of funds!
<http://rnzspca.org.nz/>

In case you are worrying how the ducks are getting on – well they still enjoy being in the back garden and

even have their own bath and a shed to sleep in at night (and don't worry they won't become anyone's Christmas dinner!) Guess what present I'm going to get the ducks for Christmas? Christmas quackers!

More festive jokes!

Q. What do you have in December that you don't have in any other month?
A. The letter 'D'

Q. What are brown and sneak around the kitchen?
A. Mince Spies

Q. What's the difference between the Christmas alphabet and the normal alphabet.
A. The Christmas alphabet has Noel.

Q. What would happen if you ate Christmas decorations?
A. You would get tinselitis!

Sudoku

The solution is on page 4 of this newsletter. Good luck!

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

Easy recipe - Strawberry Scones

At this time of year in New Zealand, delicious strawberries are becoming plentiful. Here is a recipe that is perfect for afternoon tea.



Ingredients for scones

4 cups of self-raising flour
1 can lemonade (350ml)
300 ml cream

Ingredients for topping

Strawberry jam
Whipped cream (or canned spray cream)
Sliced fresh strawberries.
Icing sugar (optional)
Sprig of fresh mint (optional)

Method

Preheat oven to 220 – C.

In a large bowl, first put the flour then gradually add the can of lemonade and then add the cream.

Mix all ingredients together to form a soft moist dough.

Put the dough onto a well floured surface and also sprinkle some flour on the top.

Using a rolling pin, roll the dough to about 6 cm thick.

Cut the dough into circles using a round pastry cutter.

Place them close together on an oven tray lined with baking paper.

Bake for about 15 to 20 minutes until pale golden and well risen. Remove from oven and allow to cool.

Serve spread with of strawberry jam, topped with a spoonful of cream and sliced fresh strawberries.

To make them even more attractive you can dust them with icing sugar and then add a little sprig of fresh mint (optional). The contrast of the green mint and red strawberries makes them look very festive served at Christmas.

Sudoku solution (from page 3)

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

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