

Real Special Times

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Real Special News

Welcome to the first issue of Real Special Times for 2007. The school year is about to start and we have some exciting products that we hope will help students reach their potential, including new products Lexion, Numbeshark 4, Claro and Dragon, and Multipacks of Surer Steps products.

Real Special Holidays, the fully equipped, family friendly holiday house we rent out at Ruby Bay has been really busy over summer. For details, photos and future availability, go to: www.holidayhouses.co.nz (reference 7979) For the comfort of Deaf guests, the property has a Deaf smoke alarm and Deaf doorbell installed (for more Deaf products, see the DeafQuip link in our Special Needs website section.



Specials

Nessy Literacy Scheme (with over 1,500 printable resources and 12 onscreen games) is still on special. Designed for those with dyslexia etc, the resources develop reading, writing and spelling.

The new **Nessy Games player** helps develop reading and spelling – this has all the Nessy on-screen games without the printouts and is only \$65 including GST!

For more details, see our "Reading and Spelling" website sections.

New Products (for more details – click on the "New Products" link in our website)

New Numbershark 4

Numbershark has now been updated to include 4 new games (now has 45). This software offers tailored maths support and is particularly suited for those whose numeracy skills are affected by poor short-term memory and poor sequencing skills.

New - Lexion Software

Lexion (from the UK) software for developing reading, writing and spelling. It tests the student, automatically creates the findings, then generates appropriate exercises. Lexion covers phonological awareness, letter-sound correspondence, syllable and morpheme segmentation and blending, etc. For use with Pre-School to Year 9 (age 14), and can be used by older students with a lower reading age.

ClaroRead + Dragon bundles


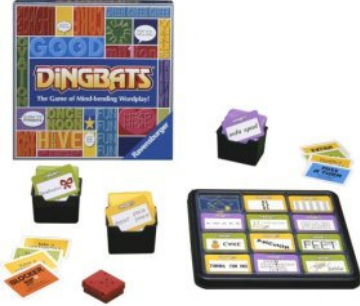


Dragon is amazing – as you dictate, it will write the words for you onscreen! Claroread then will read it back for you in Real Speak voices, and will also read other documents and webpages.

Surer Steps "Behaviour" software

A range of products to support behaviour targets The 5 products are now available as a one CD multipack: Behaviour Trackmaker, Visual Timetable, Reward Track, Reward Maps, Rule Posters, at a special price of \$270 + GST (priced individually would cost \$380 + GST)

Steps to Literacy.

Workbooks for teachers and pupils to accompany Wordshark or can be used independently.

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<p style="text-align: center;">Featured websites</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div> <p>Dingbats</p> <p>http://www.dingbats.net/</p> <p>Over the holidays, we really enjoyed some family board games, particularly Dingbats. The object of the game for you to work out the word or phrase from the picture given – really good fun! We have now found a website for it where you can play the games online for free – you play it by yourself or against an opponent. Here is an example:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">ONCE NOON</p> <p>Look at the bottom of this page for the answer.</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div> <p>Chinese New Year</p> <p>http://www.apples4theteacher.com/</p> <p>Apples 4 the Teacher is a really good website with a whole range of activities. Although designed for teachers, the activities can just as easily be carried out at home. At the top of this websites homepage, click on apple shaped "Holiday Fun" icon.</p>	<p>This gives you a link to topics for each month of the year.</p> <p>The Chinese New is being celebrated on February 18th, with 2007 being the Year of the Pig.</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div> <p>This website has colouring pages of all the different animal symbols (great for making a wall display), and it also has ideas on how to use the pictures to develop literacy. If you want to colour the pictures using the computer, you can also do that before printing or just print the outline for filling in later. There are also printable Chinese tangram puzzles to make, wordsearches, and some favourite Chinese recipes – Egg drop soup, Egg roll salad, and Fried rice.</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div> <p>Celebrations for the Chinese New Year in New Zealand</p> <p>Different areas will be organizing their own things, but as Auckland has the largest Chinese community, theirs is likely to be very spectacular. Skycity Auckland will celebrate Chinese New Year with the Sky Tower lighting up red and gold from the 12 February - 2 March 2007. A breathtaking acrobatic and martial arts show, musical performances, traditional ceremonies, themed decorations and a Lion Dance will all celebrate the arrival of the Year of the Pig.</p> <p>(The Dingbats answer is: "Once upon a time". Still not clear how they got that answer? noon is the "time" part, and they have put the once "upon" it.)</p>

Edith the Poodle

Hi, I'm Edith, the Real Special mascot. How do you like my SuperDog costume? I am a little disappointed with it as I hoped it would make me fly – guess this poodle will still be known as “not a flying toy”. Why do I want to fly do you ask? Well, its all to do with the three Paradise ducks my mother has “adopted”. They live in the back garden and even have their own bath for swimming in. It looks like they are 2 girls and a boy although the girls heads have not yet turned white. The ducks have grown so big now that they are no longer frightened of me and they can now fly so that’s why I thought I would try it –but it is not as easy as it looks!



Edith’s Duck jokes

Q: What time do the ducks wake up?
A; At the quack of dawn!

Q: What did the ducks say when they went shopping?
A; Put it on our bill

One day the ducks and I were playing in the garden. Suddenly I noticed some bees coming right for us so I yelled “DUCK!!” .The ducks looked back at me and yelled “DOG!”

Sudoku for February

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.

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

Easy recipe - Zucchini Quiche

Zucchini's (also called courgettes) are really plentiful at the moment so why not make this easy quiche that tastes delicious served either hot or cold.

Ingredients

- 3 cups of shredded zucchini
- 1 chopped onion
- 1 cup of plain flour
- 1 teaspoon of baking powder
- 4 eggs, beaten
- 1/2 cup of oil
- 1 cup of grated cheese e.g cheddar or edam
- 2 teaspoons of Italian mixed herbs
- Salt & pepper to taste

Method

Crack the eggs into a bowl and beat lightly.
 Add the oil to the jug and stir.
 Put all the other ingredients together in a large bowl.
 Gradually stir in the egg and oil mixture to the other ingredients.
 Grease a large flan dish or pie plate and pour the mixture in.
 Bake in a moderate oven 350°F / 180°C / Gas 4 for 45-55 minutes.
 Slice when cooled.
 This tasty recipe can be served either hot or cold. It goes really well with salads and can be sliced and taken for lunch in a chilly bin.



Sudoku solution (from page 3)

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

Last but not least:

We now have a new phone number at real Special, although calls to our old number will be diverted at no extra cost to you.

Our number is

03 540 2804

We look forward to a year of exciting products and aim to offer them at very competitive rates, along with individual excellent customer service. We will also be continuing to give free postage throughout New Zealand so the price you see on the website is the price you pay – no hidden extra's.

Subscription notice. You have received this free newsletter because you have requested to subscribe to it – thank you. Your privacy will be respected – we do not pass on your information to anyone. Please feel free to forward this email to any other interested people. Apologies if you do not want to be on our mailing list - if you wish to be removed, please contact us.