

	<b>REAL SPECIAL TIMES</b>	
<p><b><u>In this issue:</u></b> <b>Page 1:</b> Real Special news <b>Page 2:</b> Featured websites <b>Page 3:</b> Edith's column and Sudoku <b>Page 4:</b> Easy recipe, Sudoku solution</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Real Special News</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Free Prize Draw</b></p> <p>In support of <b>Dyslexia awareness week 16 – 22 June</b>, we are having a free prize draw for a copy of Nessy Fingers. All orders throughout June will be automatically entered into the draw.</p> <p>Nessy fingers teaches the alphabet in 5 easy lessons, using real words and sentences through fun, interactive style games. Fingers is the newest Nessy product and is for teaching typing to those with dyslexia. <a href="http://www.realspecial.co.nz/dy_nessy_fingers.asp">http://www.realspecial.co.nz/dy_nessy_fingers.asp</a></p> <p>Don't forget we have many free resources and trials of products for dyslexia – see 'Free Stuff' on our website. The most popular free worksheet is the Nessy b,p,d sheet to help students distinguish between these letters. <a href="http://www.realspecial.co.nz/freebies_dy.asp">www.realspecial.co.nz/freebies_dy.asp</a></p> <p>'A Blessing in Disguise' is the theme for this year's NZ Dyslexia Awareness Week. The focus is on promoting greater understanding and acceptance of dyslexia as an alternative way of thinking and one that can offer creative gifts as well as learning challenges. <a href="http://www.dyslexiafoundation.org.nz/dyslexiaweek/daw.html">http://www.dyslexiafoundation.org.nz/dyslexiaweek/daw.html</a></p>		<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Other Dyslexia news:</b></p> <p><b>'Harry Potter' helps dyslexia!</b></p>  <p>JK Rowling has written an 800-word Harry Potter prequel for charity. There are 13 authors writing 'storycards' to benefit the <a href="#">Dyslexia Action</a> and <a href="#">English PEN</a> charities. The stories will be made into a book, available from August. The prequel plot takes place 3 years before Harry Potter is born and speculation is that the story will be around the Marauders - specifically James and Sirius. The story will be on display at Waterstones (a UK bookstore chain) from June 11<sup>th</sup>. <a href="http://www.waterstones.com/waterstonesweb/home.do">http://www.waterstones.com/waterstonesweb/home.do</a></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>'Dore' centres close</b></p> <p>The Dore dyslexia treatment centres, have closed. The dyslexia treatment has come under criticism from different sectors, but of more concern now is the worry that some people who have paid for treatment will lose money. For more information, a link to the official Dore Australia website is below - Dore NZ website does not seem to be working <a href="http://www.dore.co.nz">www.dore.co.nz</a> plus one to the Dyslexia Action UK site and their comments. <a href="http://www.dore.com.au/home.aspx">http://www.dore.com.au/home.aspx</a> <a href="http://www.dyslexiaaction.org.uk/Page.aspx?PageId=21#Dore">http://www.dyslexiaaction.org.uk/Page.aspx?PageId=21#Dore</a></p>

### Featured websites

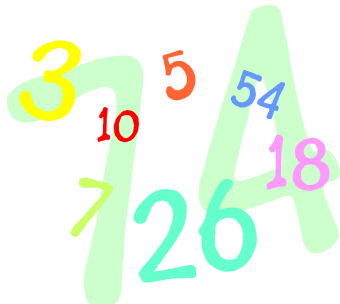


This month's choices give free resources on the following subjects:

- **Maths for primary and intermediate students**
- **World Environment Day**
- **Art for younger students**

<http://www.mathplayground.com>

Math Playground is a website aimed at primary and intermediate students, but many of the items would also be really useful for older students who need further reinforcement of maths concepts and clear explanations. There are parts of the website that students can work on themselves, e.g. math games, but there are also printable resources for teachers and parents e.g. worksheets and answer sheets. The site has several sections; computation practice, maths manipulatives, programming, math games, logic puzzles, word problems, and maths videos. The games are excellent (my favourite is the Simon Says memory game in logic puzzles), but I think the most useful section is the math videos. In this, students send in their questions, e.g. what is a prime number? A really clear explanation, using animations, is given in response to each question.



<http://www.sustainability.govt.nz:80/wed>

World Environment Day is being held on June 5<sup>th</sup>. More than 100 countries take part each year and it is one of the most popular days on the United Nations calendar. This year New Zealand is the host country and schools are being encouraged to take part. The official website link (above) gives more information on major events (such as the painting exhibition at Te papa) local events, printable poster resources etc.



[www.kinderart.com](http://www.kinderart.com)

Don't be put off by the word "kinder", there are many activities here that are suitable for primary age and special needs students as well as pre-school pupils. On the home page are links to lots of different sections, e.g. , crafts, art kitchen (both edible art materials made from things in your kitchen), drawing section, special needs, seasonal crafts etc.



**Edith the poodle**

Hi, I'm Edith, the Real Special mascot. You may wonder why I am dressed for a celebration – well it's because I have finally said goodbye to one of the pesky ducks! My ongoing feud with them as to who owns the garden will be easier now that there are only the two boys, Peter and Paul left.



Mary duck has flown to Kaitaia – but not, as you might expect, using her own wings - no, Mary has actually travelled on two planes! She has gone to live at Diggers Valley Farm (in our December 2006 issue newsletter Mum thanked them for all their advice with the ducks!). Ruth and Stephan have their own website and Ruth writes a farm diary each week that you can subscribe to – Mary gets a mention and photo <http://diggersvalley.co.nz/>



They used to have their own Mrs Duck and so Mary has gone to be their new companion - all this fuss, I can't believe anyone could be interested in ducks when there are dogs around! Mum insisted I show you this photo of Mary in her new home - she has settled quite well but is wary of the farm cats (funny – she was never really frightened of little tough me!).

**Just For Fun**

Here's are some naughty jokes that I am not gong to let my duck-loving mum see:

Q: What do you get if a cat eats a duck?

A; A duck-filled cattypuss!

Q: What do you get if a scruffy moggy eats a duck?

A: A duck-filled tatty-puss!

Q: What do you get if a cat eats 3 ducks? (wishful thinking!)

A: A duck-filled fattypuss!

**Sudoku for June**

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

### Easy recipe: American pumpkin pie

As pumpkins are currently so inexpensive, why not use them to make this lovely dessert (a cross between cheesecake and custard pie!) First cook the pumpkin in the oven until soft but do not put any oil or flavouring on it as you just need it to be plain. To make a puree, put in a blender or mash with a fork.



#### Ingredients:

- 250g packet of gingernut biscuits
- 100g unsalted butter (easily measured using the marks on the butter packet) - melted
- 1 ½ cups pumpkin puree
- 1 cup sugar (brown is best but white can be substituted)
- 1 tsp cinnamon
- Pinch of nutmeg (optional)
- 1 Tbsp cornflour
- 3 eggs, lightly beaten

#### Instructions

1. Preheat oven to 200 ° C
2. Place gingernut biscuits in the bowl of a food processor. Process until smooth (alternatively crush them into fine crumbs using a rolling pin)
3. Add the melted butter and process or mix until combined.
4. Press into a well greased flan or pie dish (if there is not enough mixture to make crust "sides" just make a base, similar to those for cheesecakes).

5. Bake for 10 – 15 minutes at 200c until lightly cooked. Reduce heat to 160° C
6. Combine remaining ingredients (pumpkin puree, sugar, cinnamon, nutmeg, cornflour, beaten eggs) in a large bowl. Mix until well combined.
7. Pour the mixture into prepared ginger crust. Bake for 30 minutes (160c) or until set.
8. Can be served hot or cold with ice-cream, whipped cream, drizzled with maple syrup etc.
- 9.

#### Sudoku solution (from page 3)

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

#### Orders

To order any of the items features in our newsletter, please go to [www.realspecial.co.nz](http://www.realspecial.co.nz) or email [carole@realspecial.co.nz](mailto:carole@realspecial.co.nz) **Postage:** \$5 per order **Subscription notice.** You have received this free newsletter because you have requested to subscribe to it – thank you. *We respect your privacy so none of your details will be passed to other agencies. If you have received this newsletter in error or do not wish to receive future editions, please email: [newsletter@realspecial.co.nz](mailto:newsletter@realspecial.co.nz) to unsubscribe or phone us on 03 540 2804 and we will arrange this for you. We welcome your feedback - if you have any comments or contributions for the newsletter, you can also contact us via the same email address or phone number.*