
	REAL SPECIAL TIMES	
<p><u>In this issue:</u> Page 1: Real Special news Page 2: Featured websites Page 3: Edith's column and Sudoku Page 4: Easy recipe, Sudoku solution</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Real Special News</p> <p style="text-align: center;">25% Discount for previous Nessy Learning Programme Customers.</p> <p>In last month's newsletter, we told you about the great new Nessy Learning Programme. For our customers who have previously bought the older version of Nessy, we are delighted to be able to offer them a special 25% discount on the new version (\$225 NZD + GST). You can still use your old Nessy as well so have a wider selection of onscreen games!</p> <p>How is the new Nessy different from the old Nessy programme?</p> <p>New features: A4 printed teaching manual full of information about dyslexia. Integrated electronic record keeping with group monitoring. Users create their own profile and all progress is automatically saved. Revision games linked to printable certificates. 10 new onscreen games. 25 animated rules. 120 lesson plans with strategies for learning. 70 animated phonemes. Library of interactive mnemonics and word endings. 40 interactive worksheets. Interactive comic explains 'What's it like being dyslexic?'</p>		<p>'The Fair' - 9 games to maintain motivation. Lessons for Punctuation, Thinking Skills and Past Tense.</p> <p>Improved features: 5,000 words and many more sentences all professionally re-recorded Favourite games have been recreated so that the timer is an option Early stage resources have been greatly extended Facility to record and play games with your own words Every worksheet has been recreated and every illustration redrawn Worksheets and card games display in a carousel (Mac style cover flow)</p> <p>Onscreen Game changes: 7 games from the old Nessy have gone: Whack-a-Rat, Power Protectors, Doggy Din Dins, Squish Em, Ough Monster Sound Sorting, Chase the Chicken, Poke the Pig.</p> <p>New games include: Jig Sore (synthesising phonemes), Chimp Fu (syllable division), Fish Food (1-2 player spelling), Piranha Snap (1-2 player reading), Hot Feet and the letters of fire/words of doom (synthesising phonemes/reading words), Nessy Challenge (reading and spelling assessments).</p> <p>More details of the Nessy learning programme are in our website 'Reading Section'. Full price \$300 + GST. Please contact us for more details of the 25% discount (proof of previous Nessy learning programme purchase required).</p>

Featured websites



This months choices include free memory games, free strategy games, free art exhibitions.

www.realartroadshow.co.nz

Philanthropist Fiona Campbell has an extensive collection of New Zealand art and is taking it on the road in two trucks. Each truck – one silver, one black – unfolds to form a 64 square metre art gallery and displays over 60 original artworks by some of New Zealand’s leading artists, forming a fascinating collection of post 1945 visual art, The Real Art Show is going to be going around the country visiting every New Zealand Secondary School within the next 4 years but is often open to the public during school holidays - check the ‘Itinerary’ section of the website. The collection includes paintings, screen prints, sculptures. Photographs, ceramics, etc.



Sara Hughes screen print.

www.freethinkinggames.com

The Free Thinking Games website has so many wonderful free categories for online games, including:

- Strategy games
- Logical thinking
- Word games
- Puzzle riddles
- Mind stimulation games
- Critical thinking e.g chess games



www.kidsmemory.com

This website has 4 free memory games to help both children and adults. Memory is a vitally important skill because it directly affects every other intellectual process.

- Memory Match was developed based on a step by step memory development model. By slowly increasing the level of difficulty, both adults and children will find their ability to recall and locate objects increase.
- Light it up is a memorization game
- Memory Face Off is a *challenging and fun way to practice memory of sequences.*
- Number Scrambler – *the activities are broken into three separate skill blocks to develop audio memory, visual memory and reverse order numbers.*

Edith the poodle

Hi, I'm Edith, the Real Special mascot. This beautiful fabric I am wearing is actually a Furoshiki gift-wrapping from Japan. I am wearing it in a similar fashion to a summer sarong!



Furoshiki is a fun and creative style of gift wrapping using a large piece of cloth to create elegant looking presents. They are wonderful for the environment as when the gift is unwrapped there's nothing to throw away. Furoshiki are used to wrap all shapes of gifts from squares and rectangles to bottles. Some fabrics are so beautiful they can be used as wall hangings!

You can make your own Furoshiki in different sizes from things such as scarves, tablecloths, pashmina's etc. The material must be large enough to wrap around the present several times but not too bulky or it will be difficult to knot.

The Japanese government is encouraging people to make Furoshiki into eco-friendly recyclable shopping bags instead of using plastic bags.

The Japanese Government have produced a free PDF (see link below) showing some folding techniques.

<http://www.env.go.jp/en/focus/attach/060403-5.pdf>

Just for Fun – Edith's jokes.

In honour of the winter Olympics, these jokes have a sports theme!

Q. What is the difference between a dog and a basketball player?

A. One drools the other dribbles.

Q. Which sport is always in trouble?

A. 'Bad'minton.

Q. Why did the wrestler bring a key?

A. To get out of a headlock.

Sudoku for March

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

Easy recipe – Apricot Muesli bars

These apricot muesli bars are tasty and nutritious and are great for morning tea, snacks and lunchboxes.

<http://www.kidspot.co.nz/recipes-for+1257+++Apricot-muesli-bars.htm>



Ingredients:

¾ cup dried apricots, chopped
½ cup water
150g butter, chopped
¾ cup brown sugar
1¼ cups plain flour
1½ teaspoons baking powder
1 cup rolled oats
1 cup White choc bits

Method:

Preheat oven to 180C.
Line the base of a 28cm x 18cm x 3cm tin with baking paper.
Put the apricots and water in a saucepan, bring to the boil, simmer until the liquid is absorbed.
Remove from heat.
Add the butter and stir until melted.
Stir in the brown sugar, cool.
Sift the flour and baking powder together.

Add to the apricot mixture with the rolled oats and white choc bits, mix thoroughly, press into the tin.
Bake for 30-35 minutes or until golden brown and cooked when tested with a skewer.
Stand 10 minutes then turn out onto a rack.
When cold, cut into 24 bars.

Variations

Try other dried fruits, such as cranberries, dates etc.
Nuts can also be added (e.g pecans, peanuts, walnuts or almonds).
Dark chocolate bits work well.

Sudoku solution (from page 3)

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

Orders

To order any of the items features in our newsletter, please go to www.realspecial.co.nz or email carole@realspecial.co.nz

Postage: \$5 per order

Subscription notice. *If you have received this newsletter in error or do not wish to receive future editions, please email: newsletter@realspecial.co.nz to unsubscribe or phone us on 03 540 2804 and we will arrange this for you.*