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Real Special News

A chance to get Lucid Ability software at half price!

Lucid offer a whole range of assessment software for diagnosing dyslexia. For a limited time, they are now offering LUCID ABILITY at half the recommended price providing a copy of COPS, LASS Junior or Secondary has been ordered. This must be on the same purchase order and ordered at the same time using an equivalent license, i.e. 1 year, 3 years or 5 years.



Phonic Decoding Test

Lucid Ability uses enjoyable and stimulating activities to assess verbal and non-verbal reasoning skills in the age range 4 – 6, 7 – 12, or 11 – 16.

For younger children (age 4 - 8 years) verbal ability is assessed by means of a picture vocabulary task, and non-verbal ability by means of a mental rotation game.

For older children (age 7 - 16 years) verbal ability is assessed by means of conceptual similarities task, and non-verbal ability by means of a matrix problem-solving task. The tests do not require reading skills as the computer will read aloud any words that appear on-screen if the child wants this.

Unlike most other ability tests, the results are independent of reading attainment, and can be used equally well with readers and non-readers.

Results are available immediately, facilitating swift decision-making. Results are presented in a graphical screen display, which can be viewed and printed out immediately. Scores are provided in three forms making it easy for teachers to use: Standard scores. Centile scores, Age equivalents.

Usual price \$215 NZD + GST. (1 Year License), Special price \$107 + GST (1 year license) when additional specified Lucid product ordered.

Free Trials of Lucid

Many of the Lucid products have free downloadable trials (including Lucid Ability) – please see the links in the Free Stuff or Assessments sections of our website.

New Product

Nessy fingers for Mac

We are delighted to announce that Nessy Fingers, a great programme for teaching dyslexic and other students how to touch type, is now available for use with Mac. The price is still the same as the PC version (\$67NZD including GST).

Nessy Fingers quickly teaches the layout of the keyboard through the alphabet in 5 simple lessons, using real words and sentences. It comprises of 9 games. This is ideal for all students (age 8+), especially those who have dyslexia / dyspraxia.

For more details on the programme, see our website "writing" section. On the page of information you can download a free sample trial of the programme (the trial is currently only in PC version).

Featured websites



<http://www.eday.org.nz>:

Did you know that Saturday 12th September is eDay? Also on Tuesday 8th September there are special arrangements for schools who want to recycle e-waste such as old computers and mobile phones – See the site above for details.

What can be disposed of

- computer hardware
- monitors
- networking equipment (e.g. modems, routers, hubs)
- scanners
- keyboards, mice, speakers
- laptops
- printers
- game consoles
- toner and ink jet cartridges
- mobile phones
- fax machines
- digital cameras

What to do before eDay

Ensure that your mobile is disconnected and that contacts and other stored information are erased from the phone's memory. Also remove your phone's SIM card if it has one.

Wipe all data from your computer's hard drive and remove any removable media such as floppy disks or PC cards.

Here is a link to a free advanced security tool for Windows which allows you to completely remove sensitive data from your hard drive
<http://eraser.heidi.ie/>

Uptoten.com

This is a website in both English and French that has 1347 free kids' games. Designed for children aged 0 – 10, each section has a specific age range and many activities would also be suitable for those with developmental delay. Click on the "free" section of the home page and it gives you a page with icon sections to access e.g. colouring, animated cards, games etc.

What's in each section?

'**Colouring**' - Coloring pages and artistic activities for ages 0 – 10. This section has animated on-line coloring pages with MP3 sound plus print and paint pages galore!

'**Games**' - educational software for kids to play and learn. In the games section (ages 6 – 10) there are jigsaw puzzles, racing games, coordination games, mazes etc.

'**Animated cards**' – Over one hundred animated cards e cards with MP3 sound for all ages and for every special occasion The cards are divided into 11 categories : New Year, Easter, Mother's Day, Father's Day, Halloween, Christmas, Birthday, Boowa & Kwala, Friendship, Don't Forget My Birthday and Songs for Kids

'**Boowa and Kwala**' – These are two cartoon characters and their section has educational games, songs, stories and activities for preschool, kindergarten and primary school kids (0 – 6) or Boowa & Kwala fans of any age.



Edith the poodle

Hi, I'm Edith, the Real Special mascot.



My colour coordinating pale green dress, yellow collar and green lead might give you a clue as to what charity I was collecting for on Friday 28th August – yes, it was the daffodil appeal for the cancer Society! I really enjoyed meeting all the children and giving away stickers and balloons to them while their parents bought from the selection of goods on offer e.g. fresh daffodils, windmills and even teddy bears!

The daffodil is one of the first flowers of spring and we were certainly lucky with the weather as it was a glorious spring day and we sold out of everything by 3 o'clock! If you missed all the events going on around the country and would like to donate, it's not too late as you can support the Cancer Society by donating online, by phone, or even text.

<http://www.daffodilday.org.nz/>

My mum even got into the swing of things by wearing daffodils in her hair!



Bobby was too busy digging for bones in the garden to come collecting so I brought him back a souvenir silk daffodil – doesn't it suit him!



Just for fun

Q: What do you get if you cross a dog with a frog?

A: A dog that can lick you from the other side of the road

Q: What do you get if you cross a computer and a Rottweiler?

A: A computer with a lot of bites!

Q: What do you get if you cross a dog with a kangaroo?

A: A dog that has somewhere to put its own lead!

Sudoku

Good luck! The solution is on page 4.

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

Easy recipe – veggie tarts

These little tarts are very similar to a quiche and are so easy to make as you use bread for the ‘pastry’.



Ingredients:

- 12 slices of bread
- 1 cup of cheese
- 2 cups of defrosted frozen mixed vegetables
- 4 eggs
- 250 ml can of reduced cream
- 2 tsp Italian mixed herbs

Method

Well grease a 12 cup muffin tray and pre-heat the oven to 200c (approx 390F).
Cut out one large circle from each slice of bread (if your pastry cutter is not big enough, cut round a small saucer). Make sure there are no parts of the crust on the cut out bread circle.
Roll out the bread circles so they are flatter and thinner.
Place a bread “circle” in each of the muffin cup holes.
In a bowl, lightly beat together the 4 eggs.
Next add the full tin of reduced cream and the cup of cheese and lightly mix.
Then add the 2 cups of vegetables and the 2 teaspoons of herbs and mix again.
Spoon the mixture into the 12 muffin cups.
Cook for approx 25 – 30 mins until golden brown.
Serve either warm (not straight from the oven – leave to settle for a few minutes) or cold.
These are lovely for lunch or afternoon tea.

Variations:

You can use different types of bread (the ones in the photo above were made using whole meal sliced bread).

Vary the 2 cup filling, e.g. use different vegetables and even any leftovers.

Change the taste by adding different herbs such as chives and parsley.

Sudoku solution (from page 3)

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

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

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