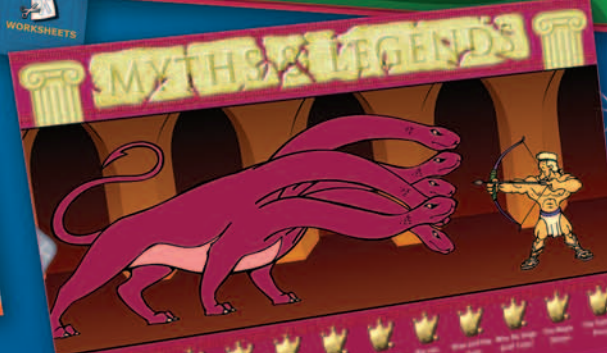
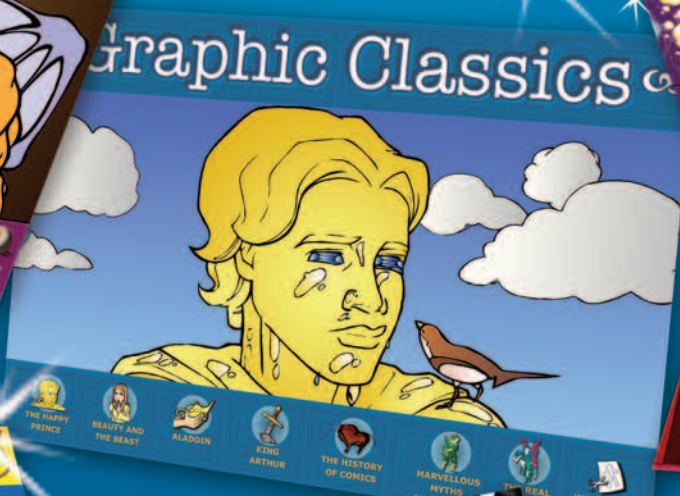
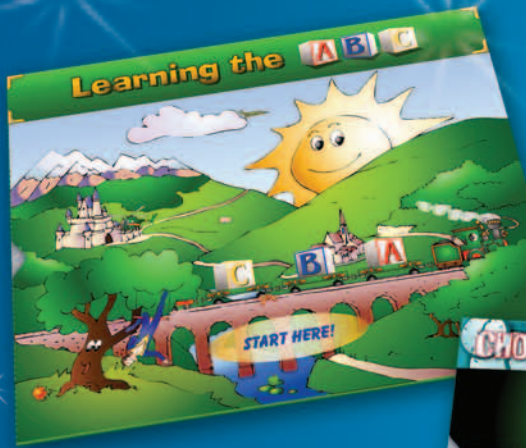




# READING ZONE **Story Hub**

in association with **ZIPTALES**

## Teacher's Guide





# READING ZONE STORY HUB

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## INTRODUCTION

Folens have collaborated with an established, successful Australian educational company, Ziptales, to provide an online stories and skills library. *Reading Zone* Story Hub, in association with Ziptales, is an educational reading website suitable for children and is designed to promote literacy by making reading fun. It can be accessed through [www.folensonline.ie](http://www.folensonline.ie).

As all teachers know, school children today are digital natives; they are growing up in an environment that enables them to embrace technology in all aspects of their lives. This is especially true in the classroom with the increasing use of computers, tablets and interactive whiteboards. Children are highly motivated to learn by reading digital stories and completing comprehension activities online. The 2011 strategy document from the Department of Education and Skills, *Literacy and Numeracy for Learning and Life*, recognised the importance of digital material as part of overall literacy, stating: 'We need to ensure that the curriculum provides for the development of literacy through engagement with a range of texts (literary and non-literary) and a range of media including digital media.'

*Reading Zone* Story Hub in association with Ziptales has been developed to respond to the growing digital needs of teachers and pupils. Providing a main library of over 150 stories and as well as nine other activity modules on topics from learning the ABC to creative writing, each element has been written and designed specifically for digital learning.

The first thing you'll notice about the Story Hub Ziptales is how colourful and child-friendly they are. Ziptales makes reading seem 'cool'. It uses technology children already know and love, not for games but for genuine educational purposes. It is a remarkably broad-based tool – appealing to both boys and girls equally, and working well with students with a wide range of abilities.

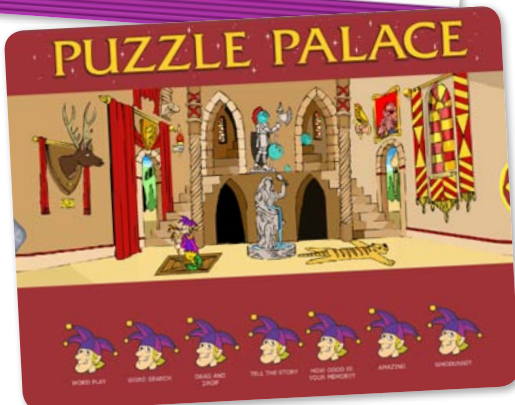
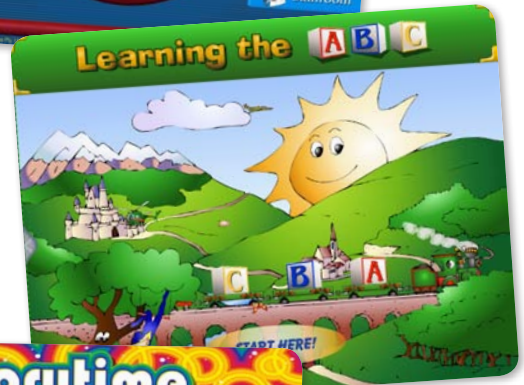
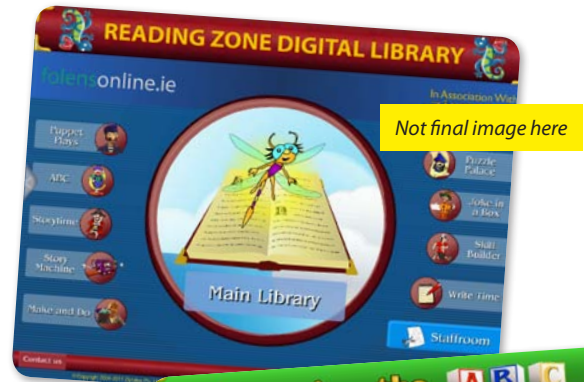


# HOME PAGE

On the Home Page the teacher will find a range of modules and Ziptales to assist in various elements of literacy teaching.

There is an introduction to the alphabet in **ABC**. Each letter is covered with practice in shaping the letter and associating the letter with words that have the same initial sound. It also contains interactive 'drag and drop' exercises and a series of quizzes, as well as a set of photocopiable worksheets. This is most suitable for infant classes.

**Storytime** contains delightful retellings of classic children's tales most suitable for infant classes. Using lovely 3D puppets against an illustrated background, these high impact, high visual interest stories include *The Three Little Pigs* and *The Billy Goats Gruff*.



In the section called **Puppet Plays** you'll find everything you need to know about puppets. The videos of the plays themselves (*The Octopus*, *The Sea Monster* and *The Pirate's Treasure* – starring Little Joe and Captain Rocky C Rockbuster) are suitable for infant classes while the 'Behind the Scenes', 'History of Puppets' and 'Puppet Making Workshop' sections are geared towards older classes (3rd–6th Class).

The **Story Machine** is an excellent resource for creative writing with a lovely choice of characters, scenes and genres to stimulate ideas. The teacher (or pupil) selects a character, a setting and a plot, with twenty-four options in each, to choose the sort of story they would like to write. When all are selected a page can be printed off as a story scaffold.

**Puzzle Palace** contains a selection of puzzles for pupils of all ages. The 'drag and drop' jigsaw-type puzzles, word play and word searches are suitable for more junior classes, while senior classes will enjoy 'How Good is Your Memory', interactive story puzzles in 'Amazing' and 'Whodunnit'.





**Write Time** is a creative writing module for pupils in 3rd–6th Class. The ‘digital documentaries’ outline how to construct a story by deconstructing one of the stories in the main library, while also introducing children to the main elements of story writing and how to make stories more interesting. More advanced sections contain information on how to write poetry, arguments, information, instructions, recounts and essays.

**Skill Builder** focuses on grammar and punctuation. The grammar section deals with nouns, pronouns, verbs, adverbs, adjectives, prepositions and sentences, while the punctuation section covers capital letters, full stops, commas, quotation marks and apostrophes. Skill Builder is most suitable for 5th–6th Class.

**Make and Do** is an excellent module for art lessons. If you’re looking for an idea for a craft, simply choose what level best suits your class (Easy = 1st–2nd Class, Medium = 3rd–4th Class, Hard = 5th–6th Class), click on the Make and Do machine and choose from the many activities that pop up.

And finally there is **Joke in a Box**. This is an application that children will love, and it can be used as a springboard for oral language lessons from 1st Class onwards, or simply for a bit of entertainment in the classroom.

## MAIN LIBRARY

The primary attraction of Ziptales is its vast and varied main library, with fifteen categories of stories available. These range from funny stories in Comedy Capers to the high-octane tales of Adventure Land, and from the fur-friendly yarns in Animal Antics to the beautifully illustrated stories of Graphic Classics. When you click into each category you will discover a bank of between ten and twelve stories. Each story is has been written for an online audience, and has been analysed by an Irish teacher to determine which class level it is best suited to. The class level can be found by hovering the mouse over the story title, and there is also a complete listing of stories and levels in the Teacher’s Manual (see page xx).





In the main library, most of the stories follow a common design. These include all of the stories in the categories of **Adventure Land**, **Comedy Capers**, **Animal Antics**, **True Tales**, **People Stories**, **Mystery Maze**, **Fantasy Forest**, **Fabulous Fairytales**, **Scary Stories** and **Myths and Legends**.

Each category contains stories in a similar theme:

**Adventure** contains twelve stories especially loved by boys that take the reader on a journey from the depths of the rainforest to outer space.

**Animal** is for all animal lovers who enjoy stories about heroic dogs, mischievous cats and a little duck who needs a friend.

**Comedy** contains eleven hilarious stories suitable for children from 1st–5th Class.

**Fairy Tales** offers readers a range of twelve much-loved traditional stories from The Frog Prince to The Little Mermaid to Thumbelina.

**Fantasy** contains eleven exciting tales featuring monsters, witches, dragons and even a genie with a hearing problem.

**Mystery** is for all those who enjoy a good detective story – here are eleven stories with clues, suspects and solutions.

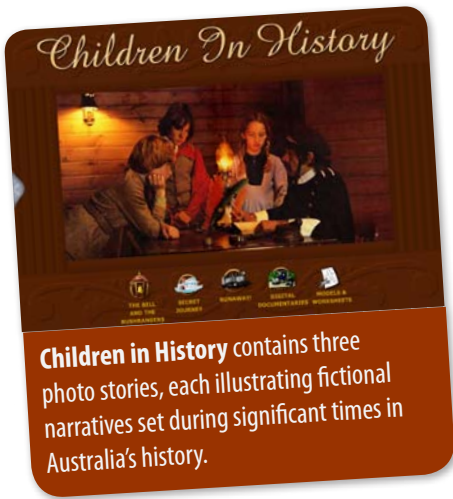
**Myths and Legends** gathers together twelve stories from around the world ranging from Ancient Greek hero tales to an Australian Aboriginal creation myth.

Readers will meet a fantastic array of characters in **People Stories**, from Harriet who wants a hug to Baby Jack, who causes consternation within his family.

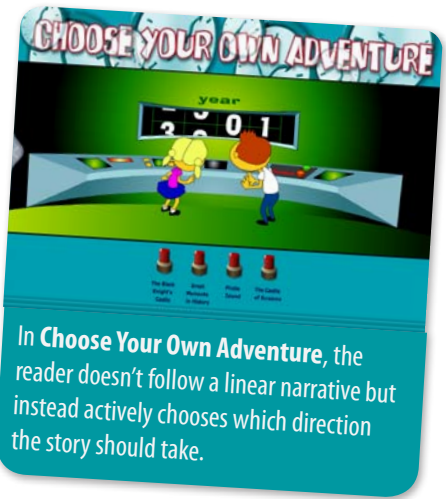
Prepare to be frightened by the eleven **Scary** stories found in this section. Beware of ghosts, ghouls, monsters and dragons!



**True Tales** is a collection of twelve exciting real life stories of adventure, danger, heroism and tragedy, as well as biographies of extraordinary people.



**Children in History** contains three photo stories, each illustrating fictional narratives set during significant times in Australia's history.



In **Choose Your Own Adventure**, the reader doesn't follow a linear narrative but instead actively chooses which direction the story should take.



The stories in **Graphic Classics** could best be described as digital comic strips, with text being placed over illustrations and each segment of the strip appearing in turn.



**Rhyme Time** has a range of beautifully illustrated poems from limericks to more challenging works for advanced readers.

A brief synopsis of each story, along with their suggested class level, genre category, theme and list of worksheets is available overleaf.



## USING ZIPTALES IN THE CLASSROOM

Story Hub Ziptales are ideally suited to whole class or small group lessons using an interactive whiteboard or for independent reading at computer time.

### Shared Reading

With the use of an interactive whiteboard or data projector, each of the *Reading Zone* Story Hub Ziptales becomes an instant 'big book'. The teacher can turn off the voiceover and direct children's attention to the various aspects of the text, reading aloud and encouraging spontaneous participation in the reading of the story. This models the reading process but still allows for a focus on the enjoyment of the story.

### Guided Reading

In guided reading sessions teachers are able to work with small groups of children on texts that match the students' needs and abilities. The reading groups can be in front of the whiteboard. Students can choose to hear the stories or to read them silently to themselves. Other class members may be taking part in independent reading or completing tasks chosen from the downloadable worksheets available in the Staffroom.



## Independent Reading

The full website collection is ideally suited to children ready for independent reading and caters for interest levels up to age twelve. In the choice of genre categories in particular thought was given to the problem of reluctant readers, who often happen to be boys. 'Scary Stories', 'Adventure Land', 'True Tales' and 'Choose Your Own Adventure' are particularly popular with boys.

## STAFFROOM

The Staffroom section of the site contains a wealth of material for teachers, including:

- over 600 pages of worksheets to accompany the stories and modules
- answers for all of the interactive tests online and the printable worksheets
- a downloadable, adaptable Excel file to assist tracking students' progress
- story summaries and themes
- a teacher's guide.



## A NOTE ON CLASS LEVELS

Please note that the texts have been classified by an Irish teacher using a combination of the following Readability Formulae, and a read-through 'gut-instinct', based on experience of Irish schoolchildren as readers. Class levels are available overleaf.

- Flesh-Kincaid Reading Ease
- Flesh-Kincaid Grade Level
- Gunning Fog Score
- SMOG Index
- Coleman Liau Index
- Automated Readability Index

Teachers should see these levels as suggestions and feel free to use whatever material they see fit for their individual pupils and classes.

## HOW TO ACCESS READING ZONE STORY HUB

1. Register for folensonline.ie
2. Log in with your email address and password
3. From the drop down menus select your subject (English) and class
4. Select 'Reading Zone Story Hub' from the Select a Book option
5. Enjoy using Reading Zone Story Hub Ziptales!



LEVEL	STORY	SECTION	SYNOPSIS
<b>1st Class</b>			
1	Peabrain	Comedy Capers	A peacock comes to live with a family and causes all sorts of trouble.
1	Loo Blues	Comedy Capers	A girl locks herself in the toilet and can't get out. Her Dad has to rescue her.
1	The Crying in the Dark	Mystery Maze	A little dog is discovered when its cries are heard. But who is the owner?
1	Danny's New Glasses	People Stories	A story about bullying, with a happy ending.
1	Old Mother Hubbard	Rhyme Time	Classic nursery rhyme first printed in 1805.
1	The Wind	Rhyme Time	Who has seen the wind?
1	The Three Little Pigs	Storytime	The three pigs build houses to protect themselves from the big bad wolf.
1	Little Red Riding Hood	Storytime	A girl, a grandmother and a wolf.
1	Goldilocks and the Three Bears	Storytime	Goldilocks sleeps in Baby Bear's bed and eats his porridge.
<b>2nd Class</b>			
2	Toffee in Trouble	Animal Antics	An abandoned puppy turns up on their doorstep. Emily calls him Toffee, but Mum doesn't want to keep him ...
2	Extra Lucky	Animal Antics	A child's dog (Lucky) dies. The parents try everything to console him. Finally, they get him a new pup (Extra Lucky) and the grief dissipates. A very positive treatment of a difficult subject.
2	Who Will Save Fluffy?	Animal Antics	Fluffy gets stuck up a tree. Several people try to get her down, but only a shrewd old man finds the perfect solution.
2	The Exterminator	Comedy Capers	A cat is brought in to get rid of the mouse – but who will get rid of the cat?
2	Starkers	Comedy Capers	A boy climbs a tree, but accidentally rips off first his shorts, then his undies. He is rescued, but ends up feeling very embarrassed.
2	Tails of Bears	Comedy Capers	A fantasy story about the way bears lost their tails.
2	Cinderella	Fabulous Fairytales	A tried and true classic about transformation and the rewards of goodness.
2	The Three Billy Goats Gruff	Fabulous Fairytales	A celebrated Norse story about trickster heroes and the downfall of the evil troll.
2	Thumbelina	Fabulous Fairytales	Hans Christian Anderson's magical tale about a tiny person. The heroine's perilous adventures lead to a happy ending.
2	Three Wishes	Fantasy Forest	A retelling of the folk tale about the foolish things people wish for.
2	Pests	Interactive Readers	Based on 'The Exterminator' from Comedy Capers, this is a version for reluctant readers.
2	The Green Ghost	Interactive Readers	Based on 'I'm Not Afraid' from Scary Stories, this version is for reluctant readers.
2	Paddy Saves the Day	Interactive Readers	Based on 'Good Dog' from Adventure Land, this version is for reluctant readers.
2	The House that Jack Built	Rhyme Time	Traditional repetitive rhyme.
2	The Rainbow	Rhyme Time	A celebration of nature by Christina Rossetti.
2	Limericks by Edward Lear	Rhyme Time	Five limericks for everyone to enjoy.
2	I'm Not Afraid	Scary Stories	A night in a spooky mansion story. The ghost offers the hero riches, if he is brave enough.
2	The Billy Goats Gruff	Storytime	The traditional tale of the three goats and the troll that gets in their way.
<b>3rd Class</b>			
3	Cookie, the Shoe-Chewing Dog	Animal Antics	Cookie, like most puppies, often does what she's not supposed to – especially chewing shoes. How do the family deal with this problem behaviour?
3	Multiplying Mice	Animal Antics	A child brings a mouse home for a school project. It disappears. A replacement is found. The new replacement disappears too.
3	Snow White Super Rat	Comedy Capers	Snow White is the best rat in the world, but it's chaos when she turns up at school uninvited.
3	Hiccups	Comedy Capers	Freddie has to present a science project, but he has the hiccups! Everyone has ideas on how to cure them, but will any of them work?
3	Tortured by Fairies	Comedy Capers	A boy finds himself the only male at an all-girl fairies party. He is suffering intensely until a funny event breaks the ice and he feels much better.
3	The Fisherman and his Wife	Fabulous Fairytales	When the fisherman earns magic wishes in return for his kindness, he thinks he can please his wife, but her greed knows no bounds.
3	The Enchanted Princess	Fabulous Fairytales	A story about two brothers, a mysterious castle, magical tasks and a happy ending.
3	The Frog Prince	Fabulous Fairytales	A spoilt princess unkindly makes a promise to a magical frog that she never intends to keep. The long suffering frog comes for his promise, and her contempt gives way to compassion.
3	The Garden of Enchantments	Fabulous Fairytales	A lovely Persian fairy tale about three orphaned children and a heroic quest. It combines enchantment that can only be broken by love, magical animals, a long and arduous journey, a final reconciliation and happy ending.
3	The Little Mermaid	Fabulous Fairytales	Hans Christian Anderson's story about the mermaid who falls in love and gives up everything to become human.



THEMES	WORKSHEETS
Relationships – Coping with change – Acceptance	2 general, 1 learning support, 1 spelling and vocabulary
Embarrassment – Emergency situations – Solving problems	2 general, 1 learning support, 1 spelling and vocabulary
Compassion – Caring for animals – Relationships – Problem-solving	2 general, 1 learning support, 1 spelling and vocabulary
Bullying	4 general, 1 learning support, 1 spelling and vocabulary
Comedy – Caring for animals	2 worksheets, commentary and teacher strategies
Nature	2 worksheets, commentary and teacher strategies
Cleverness can save the day	4 worksheets
Beware of strangers	No worksheets
Beware of strangers	No worksheets
Friendship – Courage – Caring for animals	2 general, 1 learning support, 1 spelling and vocabulary
Death – Grief – Healing	3 general, 1 learning support, 1 spelling and vocabulary
Using logic to solve problems – Tolerance for older people	2 general, 1 learning support, 1 spelling and vocabulary
What looks like a solution can be its own problem – Buyer beware	2 general, 1 learning support, 1 spelling and vocabulary
Taking risks – Embarrassment – Dealing with adversity	2 general, 1 learning support, 1 spelling and vocabulary
Greed – Arrogance – Consequences	2 general, 1 learning support, 1 spelling and vocabulary
Genuine niceness wins out in the end	3 general, 1 learning support, 1 spelling and vocabulary
Cleverness and strategy are more important than brute strength – Solidarity is important	3 general, 1 learning support, 1 spelling and vocabulary
Kindness brings its reward – Be brave and true	4 general, 1 learning support, 1 spelling and vocabulary
Think before you speak – Be polite and caring – Consequences	2 general, 1 learning support, 1 spelling and vocabulary
What looks like a solution can be its own problem – Buyer beware	Activities are integrated into story – matching up, word search, crossword
Be brave – Be resourceful	Activities are integrated into story – matching up, word search, crossword
Ingenuity – Forgiveness – Kindness	Activities are integrated into story – matching up, word search, crossword
Repetition	2 worksheets, commentary and teacher strategies
Beauty all around us	2 worksheets, commentary and teacher strategies
Witty verse	2 worksheets, commentary and teacher strategies
Be brave – Be resourceful	3 general, 1 learning support, 1 spelling and vocabulary
Solidarity – Greed – Overcoming problems	4 worksheets
Friendship – Caring for animals and understanding their behaviour – Problem-solving	2 general, 1 learning support, 1 spelling and vocabulary
Responsibility – Telling the truth – Owning up to and learning from mistakes	2 general, 1 learning support, 1 spelling and vocabulary
Caring for others – Problem-solving – Coping	2 general, 1 spelling and vocabulary
Embarrassment – Problem-solving – Coping	2 general, 1 spelling and vocabulary
Gender differences – Making friends – Tolerance – Problem-solving	2 general, 1 learning support, 1 spelling and vocabulary
Greed – Humility – Reasonableness – Reciprocity	3 general, 1 learning support, 1 spelling and vocabulary
Goodness brings its reward – Beware boastfulness	3 general, 1 spelling and vocabulary
Consideration for others – Keeping your word	3 general, 1 learning support, 1 spelling and vocabulary
Love and goodness is rewarded – Loyalty and perseverance are important	3 general, 1 spelling and vocabulary
Love – Loyalty – Altruism	3 general, 1 spelling and vocabulary

LEVEL	STORY	SECTION	SYNOPSIS
3	The Luck Child	Fabulous Fairytales	A boy is born lucky. The evil king has been told that he will inherit the throne, so the king sets out to be rid of the child by any means. However, the child is a 'luck child'; and every one of the king's dastardly schemes fails.
3	Twelve Dancing Princesses	Fabulous Fairytales	An old favourite based on a mystery – where do the princesses go every night? Only the poor but wise hero can discover the answer (before his life is forfeit) with the aid of his wits and an invisible cloak.
3	Chalk and Cheese	Fantasy Forest	A little alien (Al) is stranded on Earth. Only the nice boy who befriends him can help Al find the bizarre ingredients he needs to restart his spaceship.
3	Welcome to Fairyland	Fantasy Forest	A girl acquires a magic book, which whisks her off to Fairyland. There she sees unicorns, fairies and a dragon. Features a surprise ending.
3	Talent Quest	Fantasy Forest	Granny is an eccentric inventor. She gives the heroine a special microphone for her birthday – it makes her sound like any singer she wishes. However there is a catch ...
3	Witch Upon a Star	Fantasy Forest	Winkle loses her magic, and wants to get it back. She needs help from others before all is well again.
3	The Wizard's Staff	Fantasy Forest	A boy finds a wizard's staff. He uses the staff, but the wizard appears to claim it back. There is a stand-off until they compromise.
3	Mr Moogle is Missing	Fantasy Forest	The monster in Kate's wardrobe, Mr Moogle, is missing! Kate just wants him to come back, but no one seems to understand.
3	Pop Star	Interactive Readers	Based on 'Talent Quest' from Fantasy Forest, this is a version for reluctant readers.
3	The Three Tests	Interactive Readers	Based on 'The Enchanted Princess' from Fabulous Fairytales, this is a version for reluctant readers.
3	Spiders	Interactive Readers	Kat is terrified of spiders. A tale for reluctant readers.
3	The Midnight Raiders	Mystery Maze	It's a hot summer, perfect for sneaking ice cream in the middle of the night. The freezer however objects to being raided, or does it?
3	Time to Own Up	Mystery Maze	A theft has taken place. There are four suspects – all boys who live in the same boarding house. Who did it?
3	Medusa	Myths and Legends	Perseus is set an impossible challenge: bring back the head of the snake-haired monster whose very gaze is death.
3	The Mermaid	Myths and Legends	A fisherman saves a mermaid, and then needs help himself.
3	The Minotaur and the Maze	Myths and Legends	Theseus sets out to save the people from the monster of the maze.
3	The Pearl Dragon	Myths and Legends	A myth about a boy with a quest and a magic dragon.
3	The Pied Piper	Myths and Legends	A retelling of the classic about the piper, the rats, and the children.
3	Eliza and the Troll	Myths and Legends	A retelling of a Swedish legend. A troll knocks on their door one night looking for help – his wife is having a baby. Eliza agrees to trust the troll and goes to help them.
3	Why do Dogs Sniff Tails	Myths and Legends	A folk tale from Papua New Guinea. During a meeting with the Dog Chief all the dogs must remove their tails. The hut catches fire, and in the commotion most dogs end up with the wrong tail or no tail at all!
3	A Laugh a Day	People Stories	A bullying story, in which the factor that fixes things is laughter.
3	The Big Sister	People Stories	A story of sibling rivalry, until the despised sibling is in danger.
3	Meg's Mum Can't Fly	People Stories	Meg is embarrassed because her Mum doesn't seem to have any special talents, so she makes one up.
3	Wynken, Blynken and Nod	Rhyme Time	Lovely lullaby about sailing the night seas.
3	The Owl and the Pussycat	Rhyme Time	Well known animal fantasy by Edward Lear.
3	The Bogeyman	Scary Stories	The classic story about the monster who catches naughty boys. This naughty boy nearly ends up being eaten – twice!
3	A Ghost Story	Scary Stories	A retelling of the Washington Irving classic about the young man who spends a night in a haunted house.
3	In Your Sleep	Scary Stories	A scary story about spiders who take revenge. Not too nasty, but a real thriller.
3	The Old House	Scary Stories	Two children spend the night in an old house. Guess what else haunts that house?
<b>4th Class</b>			
4	Galaxy Chase	Adventure Land	There are good guys and bad guys in this one – and lots of explosions in outer space.
4	Live Dinosaur Tour	Adventure Land	Two children on a museum tour find their way into a live dinosaur park.
4	Finders Keepers	Adventure Land	Jake accidentally releases Captain Sirhoy from a three hundred year old curse when he finds a silver coin.
4	Old Minty	Adventure Land	Billy's playing with his best friend Minty the cattle dog when he's bitten by a snake.
4	Percy and Claude	Animal Antics	Claude the cat always gets his way, and poor Percy the dog feels neglected. However the tables turn when Percy gets a special treat.
4	Bill and the Kitten	Animal Antics	Bill has a new kitten, which is very mischievous.
4	Boris, Bonnie and Greedy	Animal Antics	A new puppy (Greedy) comes to stay, causing the incumbent pet (Boris) to be wildly jealous. The situation remains tense – until the puppy saves Bonnie – and the 'sibling rivalry' is resolved.



THEMES	WORKSHEETS
Evil brings its own downfall – Niceness brings its reward – Perseverance and courage pay off	3 general, 1 spelling and vocabulary
Cleverness can save the day – Liars don't prosper in the end	3 general, 1 learning support, 1 spelling and vocabulary
Helping others – Tolerance of those who are different – Problem-solving	2 general, 1 learning support, 1 spelling and vocabulary
Magic – Being sensitive to the needs of others	3 general, 1 learning support, 1 spelling and vocabulary
Disobeying the rules – Selfishness and its consequences	4 general, 1 learning support, 1 spelling and vocabulary
Problem-solving	3 general, 1 learning support, 1 spelling and vocabulary
Thinking of others – The need to negotiate and compromise – Sharing	2 general, 1 learning support, 1 spelling and vocabulary
Friendship – Problem-solving	2 general, 1 learning support, 1 spelling and vocabulary
Disobeying the rules – Selfishness and its consequences	Activities are integrated into story – matching up, word search, crossword
Goodness brings its reward – Beware boastfulness	Activities are integrated into story – matching up, word search, crossword
Fear – the importance of honesty	Activities are integrated into story – matching up, word search, crossword
Applying logic to solve problems – Sibling rivalry	2 general, 1 learning support, 1 spelling and vocabulary
Crime doesn't pay – Applying logic to solve problems	2 general, 1 spelling and vocabulary
Bravery, Self belief – Ingenuity	4 general, 1 learning support, 1 spelling and vocabulary
Kindness – Good deeds are repaid	3 general, 1 learning support, 1 spelling and vocabulary
Bravery, Self belief – Ingenuity	3 general, 1 learning support, 1 spelling and vocabulary
Bravery – Self belief – Ingenuity	4 general, 1 learning support, 1 spelling and vocabulary
Justice – Lying – The importance of honesty	3 general, 1 learning support, 1 spelling and vocabulary
Trust – Bravery – Don't judge by appearances	2 general, 1 spelling and vocabulary
Tolerance – Fighting solves nothing	2 general, 1 learning support, 1 spelling and vocabulary
Bullying – Self belief – Ingenuity	4 general, 1 spelling and vocabulary
Love – Family feeling – Getting things in perspective	2 general, 1 learning support, 1 spelling and vocabulary
Acceptance – Love – Lies don't solve problems	3 general, 1 spelling and vocabulary
Going to sleep – Family	2 Worksheets, Commentary and Teacher Strategies
Love – Adventure	2 Worksheets, Commentary and Teacher Strategies
Be good – Be smart	2 general, 1 learning support, 1 spelling and vocabulary
Be brave – Be resourceful – Be kind	3 general, 1 spelling and vocabulary
Be kind to animals (or else) – Don't be too smart	3 general, 1 learning support, 1 spelling and vocabulary
Be brave	3 general, 1 learning support, 1 spelling and vocabulary
Courage – Persistence	4 general, 1 learning support, 1 spelling and vocabulary
Courage – Ingenuity	4 general, 1 spelling and vocabulary
Problem-solving – Helping others – Unselfish acts	2 general, 1 learning support, 1 spelling and vocabulary
Friendship – Keeping cool in emergency situations – Problem-solving	2 general, 1 learning support, 1 spelling and vocabulary
Arrogance – Selfishness – Don't give up	2 general, 1 learning support, 1 spelling and vocabulary
Caring for animals – Tolerance	2 general, 1 learning support, 1 spelling and vocabulary
Sibling rivalry – Courage – Accepting and making the most of change	3 general, 1 learning support, 1 spelling and vocabulary

LEVEL	STORY	SECTION	SYNOPSIS
4	Princess Nightmare	Animal Antics	A child has a pet snake (Princess).
4	Pirate Island	Choose Your Own Adventure	The reader must decode the cryptic inscription on a treasure map to find the way to the hidden treasure on Pirate Island.
4	The Castle of Screams	Choose Your Own Adventure	The reader is on a quest for the treasure hidden somewhere in the strange castle of Dr Frank N Stein.
4	Sitting on Sophie	Comedy Capers	The little sister (Sophie) is irrepresible. It's necessary to sit on her to keep her from spoiling the Christmas surprise.
4	The Flower of Happiness	Fabulous Fairytales	A little known Chinese tale with a powerful moral: the importance of unselfishness. The narrative follows the classic quest sequence, with impossible tasks and an unthinkable goal. It is also a charming love story.
4	One Wish	Fantasy Forest	When a Genie has a hearing problem, all the wishes get muddled up. Can anyone sort this mess out?
4	The Bravest Knight	Fantasy Forest	A young knight must rescue the princess's necklace, which has been taken by a dragon.
4	The Marble of All Seasons	Fantasy Forest	Lily is at the carnival when she encounters an old lady who shows her a magical crystal ball.
4	Beauty and the Beast	Graphic Classics	Story of a young girl and her father's promise that causes her to fall in love with a beast.
4	Aladdin	Graphic Classics	An illustrated re-telling of the classic Arabian tale of rags to riches.
4	Treasure	Interactive Readers	Based on 'Eye of the Idol' from Adventureland, this is a version for reluctant readers.
4	Where's that Rat?	Interactive Readers	Based on 'Run, Roger, Run' from Mystery Maze, this version is for reluctant readers.
4	Accused	Mystery Maze	Someone ate the chocolate cake, but who? Everyone thinks it was Emily, but after a while even she's not sure.
4	The Fancy Dress Fiend	Mystery Maze	Someone has trashed the room of the birthday girl during the party itself. Who did it? Sally Sherlock investigates and solves the mystery.
4	The Fool Fails	Mystery Maze	Four children are the suspects responsible for a rude message about the teacher written on the whiteboard. Who did it?
4	Run, Roger, Run	Mystery Maze	A rat called Roger keeps escaping from his cage. How did he get out?
4	The Twelve Labours of Hercules	Myths and Legends	A simplified retelling of the twelve impossible labours of the Greek hero.
4	The Rainbow Serpent	Myths and Legends	A simplified retelling of the Aboriginal classic.
4	Rip Van Winkle	Myths and Legends	The classic yarn about a man who goes to sleep for twenty years.
4	The Magic Statue	Myths and Legends	Pygmalion scoffs at love, but is overheard by the goddess Aphrodite. She decides to teach him a lesson and he falls in love with the statue he carves of a woman.
4	Crash	People Stories	A sensitive and complex tale about a bus crash, and a girl who saves a man's self-esteem.
4	A Hug for Harriet	People Stories	Little Harriet loves hugging people – even animals – though they don't necessarily like being hugged.
4	Jamie's Secret	People Stories	The secret is that Jamie can't read, though he pretends to. Only a sensitive teacher can solve the problem.
4	The Luckiest Catch	People Stories	A sibling rivalry story, with a happy ending.
4	Two Hours from Town	People Stories	An outback family story, with a snake drama in the middle, and a lovely warm ending.
4	The New Girl	People Stories	Jess has started at a new school while her Mum is recovering from an accident in hospital. She's being bullied by a group of girls. Then one of the bullies is involved in an accident outside Jess' house.
4	Don't Mess with Jess	People Stories	Jess and Lucy sit together in class, but they don't get along. That is until after messing up a class project on purpose they have to do detention together.
4	A Poison Tree	Rhyme Time	A parable about anger by William Blake.
4	The Ghost Train	Scary Stories	Two kids ride a ghost train. A mysterious boy appears behind them on the train. Who is he?
4	Mad Tom	Scary Stories	Some kids camp out in an old shearing shack for the night. One tells the legend of the ghost – Mad Tom. Then Tom himself appears!
4	A Monster at the Window	Scary Stories	When a girl is left home alone at night, she worries about everything. Then, to her horror, a monster seems to about to come in the window.
4	There's a Train Coming	Scary Stories	Based on a true story, this scary story is about a frightening train derailment which could have had tragic consequences. Highly dramatic, but with a happy ending!
<b>5th Class</b>			
5	Buried Treasure	Adventure Land	Coming upon a treasure map seems too good to be true. It is. This one has a surprise ending.
5	The Pirates' Cave	Adventure Land	Finding a cave full of what appears to be pirate treasure is the plot of this one. Another surprise ending.
5	Kafoops' Zoo	Animal Antics	A lady who is crazy about animals starts a zoo in her house, with most amusing consequences.
5	Runaway	Children in History	A prank leads to a runaway engine in this post-World War One photo story.
5	Secret Journey	Children in History	Billy tries to find his father on a riverboat – set in Edwardian Australia.



THEMES	WORKSHEETS
Care for animals – Problem-solving	3 general, 1 learning support, 1 spelling and vocabulary
Using logic to solve problems – Courage – Perseverance	No worksheets
Using logic to solve problems – Courage – Perseverance	No worksheets
Sibling rivalry – Tolerance – Family feeling	2 general, 1 learning support, 1 spelling and vocabulary
Selfishness is bad – altruism is good – Those of good heart who persevere will be rewarded	3 general, 1 learning support, 1 spelling and vocabulary
Helping others – Problem-solving – Selfless acts	2 general, 1 spelling and vocabulary
Courage – Helping others – Resourcefulness	4 general, 1 learning support, 1 spelling and vocabulary
Friendship – Problem-solving	2 general, 1 learning support, 1 spelling and vocabulary
Courage – Love – Integrity	4 worksheets
Ingenuity – Revenge – Love	4 worksheets
Courage – Ingenuity	Activities are integrated into story – matching up, word search, crossword
Animal intelligence – Family relationships – Applying logic to solve problems	Activities are integrated into story – matching up, word search, crossword
Dishonesty – Accepting responsibility – Guilt	2 general, 1 learning support, 1 spelling and vocabulary
Revenge – Sibling rivalry – Applying logic to solve problems	3 general, 1 spelling and vocabulary
Dishonesty – Revenge – Applying logic to solve problems	2 general, 1 learning support, 1 spelling and vocabulary
Animal intelligence – Family relationships – Applying logic to solve problems	2 general, 1 learning support, 1 spelling and vocabulary
Bravery – Self-belief – Ingenuity	4 general, 1 spelling and vocabulary
Indigenous culture – Loyalty	4 general, 1 learning support, 1 spelling and vocabulary
Endurance – What goes around comes around	4 general, 1 learning support, 1 spelling and vocabulary
Arrogance – Love	2 general, 1 learning support, 1 spelling and vocabulary
Honesty – Kindness – Self-esteem	4 general, 1 spelling and vocabulary
Love – Showing you care – Acceptance – Being nice is good	2 general, 1 learning support, 1 spelling and vocabulary
Kindness – Understanding – Education	4 general, 1 learning support, 1 spelling and vocabulary
Family is important – Be tolerant	3 general, 1 spelling and vocabulary
Bravery – Family values	3 general, 1 spelling and vocabulary
Bullying – Understanding – Acceptance	3 general, 1 learning support, 1 spelling and vocabulary
Acceptance – Friendship	2 general, 1 learning support, 1 spelling and vocabulary
The destructive nature of anger	2 worksheets, commentary and teacher strategies
Be brave – Don't think you know everything	3 general, 1 learning support, 1 spelling and vocabulary
Responsibility – Not taking advantage of people	4 general, 1 spelling and vocabulary
Be Brave – Responsibility	2 general, 1 learning support, 1 spelling and vocabulary
Keeping cool in emergency situations	2 general, 1 learning support, 1 spelling and vocabulary
Ingenuity – Courage – Being realistic	3 general, 1 learning support, 1 spelling and vocabulary
Courage – Initiative	3 general, 1 learning support, 1 spelling and vocabulary
Care for animals – Adaptability – Tolerance of others who are different	4 general, 1 learning support, 1 spelling and vocabulary
Courage – Initiative – The importance of history	4 worksheets
Perseverance – Courage – importance of family	4 worksheets

LEVEL	STORY	SECTION	SYNOPSIS
5	The Bell and the Bushrangers	Children in History	Children living in the Australian goldfields foil a robbery.
5	Great Moments in History	Choose Your Own Adventure	You are invited on a journey through time using a marvellous time machine. A fantasy adventure based on real historical facts and figures.
5	The Caped Crusader	Comedy Capers	Billy wants to be a Caped Crusader when he grows up. He practises in his ordinary day-to-day life with hilarious consequences.
5	Gobwit	Comedy Capers	Two school friends, forced to do yard duty, discover a monster living in the garbage skip at school. They feed it and make friends with it.
5	The Magic Arrow	Fabulous Fairytales	An Indonesian story in which the princess is separated from her prince, a villain comes on the scene and all is looking decidedly grim, until divine intervention saves the day.
5	Wonderful Wacky Walnut Trick	Fantasy Forest	The only trick Alice Matilda wants to master is the Wonderful Wacky Walnut Trick, but no matter how hard she tries it just won't work!
5	The Happy Prince	Graphic Classics	Oscar Wilde's fairytale of a broken hearted statue and the swallow who tries to help him.
5	King Arthur	Graphic Classics	The traditional tale of the sword in the stone, Merlin and King Arthur.
5	Fishy Business	Mystery Maze	Are fish really able to break wind? Fin seems to be, but why?
5	The Bread Thief	Mystery Maze	Scott's dog Bounce goes missing, and bread is stolen from Jake's family bakery. What a day! Is there a connection?
5	The Attic	Mystery Maze	A curious girl is mystified by the forbidden locked attic. One night she enters, and accidentally starts a fire.
5	The Faithful Prince	Myths and Legends	A traditional Indian folk tale about a prince who, because of a vow, agrees to marry a monkey.
5	Jack Likes Jam	People Stories	Jack is the new baby, but nothing seems to stop him crying until they find out by accident one day that Jack likes jam.
5	Jabberwocky	Rhyme Time	A knight goes on a heroic quest to slay a monster.
5	The Pied Piper of Hamelin	Rhyme Time	Traditional tale of the Piper who led away the rats and then the children – for advanced readers.
5	The Toy Dragon	Scary Stories	A horrible brat gets a toy dragon. The toy turns out to be magical, and the boy's nastiness is punished.
5	The Hitchhiker	Scary Stories	A retelling of the spooky urban myth about the phantom hitchhiker – the ghost who joins travellers on the road, only to disappear with no explanation.
5	The Mummy's Curse	True Tales	The celebrated finding of Tutankhamen's tomb by Howard Carter – and the legend of the curse that went with it.
5	The Great Houdini	True Tales	A simplified account of the life and stunts of the great escape artist, who risked his life in incredible ways.
5	The Titanic	True Tales	A retelling of the famous maritime disaster.
5	Blast Off!	True Tales	Yuri Gagarin was the first person to travel through space. He orbited the Earth for ninety minutes before surviving a dangerous re-entry.
5	Castaway	True Tales	The story of the man who inspired Robinson Crusoe – British sailor Alexander Selkirk, who was left alone on an island for years.
5	Snake!	True Tales	A man camping out in the jungle finds a deadly snake has crawled into his sleeping bag. How can he possibly get out?

## 6th Class

6	The Black Knight's Castle	Choose Your Own Adventure	You are looking for a kidnapped princess, for whom a reward has been offered. Can you find the princess without being caught?
6	Marvellous Myths and Legends	Graphic Classics	Digital documentary on myths from around the world.
6	The Real Story of Fairy Tales	Graphic Classics	The origin of fairy tales.
6	The History of Comics	Graphic Classics	Digital documentary on the history of illustrated texts.
6	The Battered Bully	Mystery Maze	Bradley the bully, who has been terrorising all the children, is discovered beaten up. Who did it? Sally Sherlock investigates and solves the mystery.
6	Ozymandias	Rhyme Time	Difficult poem by Shelley about the demise of a powerful king.
6	The Lady of Shalott	Rhyme Time	Poem by Tennyson for advanced readers about a mysterious noblewoman.
6	Capsize!	True Tales	A retelling of the rescue of Tony Bullimore, whose yacht capsized far from the Australian mainland.
6	Katy Cottee's Adventures	True Tales	A retelling of the incredible voyage of Kay Cottee.
6	No Second Chances	True Tales	Two people are trapped at the bottom of a cliff as night falls. If not rescued, they will freeze to death.
6	Subway Hero	True Tales	A little girl falls onto the underground subway track, just as a train is coming. Who is brave enough to save her?
6	Blackbeard the Pirate	True Tales	Blackbeard the pirate sailed the seas during the 1700's. Renowned for his cruelty, he terrorised other ships and his own crew.
6	The Ghost Ship	True Tales	This is a retelling of the most famous of all maritime mysteries – that of the ghost ship 'Mary Celeste'.



THEMES	WORKSHEETS
Courage – Problem-solving – crime doesn't pay	4 worksheets
The importance of history – Perseverance	No worksheets
Perseverance – Helping others – Jumping to conclusions	2 general, 1 spelling and vocabulary
Caring for others – Responsibility – Consequences	2 general, 1 spelling and vocabulary
Bullies get their comeuppance – Love is rewarded	3 general, 1 learning support, 1 spelling and vocabulary
Perseverance – Problem-solving – Asking for help when you need it	2 general, 1 spelling and vocabulary
Loyalty – Love – Selflessness	4 worksheets
Chivalry – Bravery – Love	4 worksheets
Applying logic to solve problems – Caring for others – Perseverance	2 general, 1 learning support, 1 spelling and vocabulary
Caring for animals – Problem-solving – Helping others	2 general, 1 learning support, 1 spelling and vocabulary
Breaking promises – Foolishness causes problems – Thinking the worst of people	3 general, 1 learning support, 1 spelling and vocabulary
Loyalty – Love – Selflessness	2 general, 1 spelling and vocabulary
Family – Problem-solving	2 general, 1 learning support, 1 spelling and vocabulary
The magic of words	2 worksheets, commentary and teacher strategies
The importance of integrity	2 worksheets, commentary and teacher strategies
The importance of being well behaved	2 general, 1 spelling and vocabulary
Be Kind – Be Brave – Not everything is as it seems	2 general, 1 learning support, 1 spelling and vocabulary
Persistence	3 general, 1 spelling and vocabulary
Bravery – Self belief	3 general, 1 learning support, 1 spelling and vocabulary
Bravery – The dangers of being arrogant	4 general, 1 learning support, 1 spelling and vocabulary
Bravery – Keeping cool in emergency situations	3 general, 1 spelling and vocabulary
Bravery – Keeping cool in emergency situations – Ingenuity – Never giving up	2 general, 1 learning support, 1 spelling and vocabulary
Altruism – Ingenuity	3 general, 1 learning support, 1 spelling and vocabulary
Using logic to solve problems – Courage – Perseverance	No worksheets
The universal nature of storytelling	No worksheets
History – beliefs – superstition	No worksheets
History – artistic expression	No worksheets
Bullying – Dishonesty – Applying logic to solve problems	2 general, 1 spelling and vocabulary
The passage of time	2 worksheets, commentary and teacher strategies
Yearning for love	2 worksheets, commentary and teacher strategies
Bravery – Altruism – Persistence	3 general, 1 learning support, 1 spelling and vocabulary
Bravery – Altruism	3 general, 1 learning support, 1 spelling and vocabulary
Bravery – Altruism	3 general, 1 spelling and vocabulary
Bravery – Altruism	4 general, 1 learning support, 1 spelling and vocabulary
Crime doesn't pay	2 general, 1 learning support, 1 spelling and vocabulary
Bravery – Keeping cool in emergency situations	3 general, 1 spelling and vocabulary

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