

The following game and teaching resources are highly recommended to supplement any literacy teaching programme, especially the Steps Programme. Publishers/stockists are given where possible, but all are fairly easily found by just googling them. Resources with an * are especially recommended for family use.

Software/online programmes available through Learning Staircase (see website)

StepsWeb.com – structured literacy programme with advanced diagnostic facilities and automatic analysis of errors. Multi-sensory, enjoyable and easy to use at home or school. www.stepsweb.com.

Comprehension Booster - Brilliant resource which can be used for reading listening comprehension

Memory Booster - Teaches auditory memory strategies. Brilliant for attention and memory.

Other software we'd recommend (just google them)

Thinksheet - Teaches the learner to brainstorm, then sort their ideas for written work.

EnglishType - Structured touch-typing programme, which is suitable for learners with processing difficulties. Range of vocabulary levels and incorporates literacy.

Numbershark - Comprehensive numeracy programme, which is suitable for all learners, including dyslexic learners. Vast array of printable worksheets and over 45 different computer games/activities to provide reinforcement.

Thinking Things 3 – Great for thinking skills, sequencing and planning and perception.



Materials and programmes available through other sources

Fitzroy Readers – Structured phonic-based readers. Excellent supplement to a literacy programme.

Key into Inference – Triune Publications. Excellent set of materials which develop comprehension, inferential thinking and vocabulary. Only use once learners are reading at a 8 year level or above

Word Retrieval Exercises for Children – Silvereye Publications. www.silvereye.com.au

Counting Cubes (wooden and come in plastic tub) – Educational Experience

Variety of teaching activities, including visual and auditory memory, following instructions

Blokus – standard 4-player version (not the 3D one)*

Visuo-spatial awareness, strategic thinking. All ages from 6+.

Foursite – IQ Ideas Ltd*

Visuo-spatial awareness, strategic thinking. Really fun game, which is suitable for all ages from 6+.

Sequence – Ventura Games*

Particularly good for visual perception, sequencing. Also involves planning skills. Suitable for ages 8+. Great family game.

Look who's listening – Super Dooper Publications

Board game. Excellent teaching resource which develops most key aspects of auditory processing, including following instructions, phonological awareness and listening comprehension. Highly recommended. Children 5 – 12.

Listening with the Brain – Curriculum Concepts

Set of 3 booklets which develop listening skills, particularly working memory



A to Z for Kidz*

Develops language skills, including vocabulary, categorization, word retrieval. Used by many speech-language therapists. Family use or teaching resource. Children 7+.

Chunks – Smart Kids

Excellent teaching resource which provides loads of variety. Develops onset + rime awareness, decoding/encoding skills, phonic knowledge and analogical transfer.

Alphabet letters – Taskmaster

Excellent set of plastic letters. Very clear shape, consonants blue and vowels red.

Stile Dyslexia – LDA

Comprehensive set of teaching resources for dyslexics and other learners with literacy needs.

Enjoyable and good way of providing variety.

Gridworks – Thinkfun. I think they've discontinued this resource, but replaced it with one which is called something like 'chocolate cupcakes'. Not as good, but still useful

Visual perceptual skills, logic, working memory and strategy.

Cross-eyed – Mindware*

Enjoyable game which develops visual perceptual skills, including instant visual recognition.

Lonpos Pyramid* Many game companies stock this.

Good for spatial awareness, visual perception and thinking skills.

SET*

Enjoyable game which develops visual perceptual skills, concepts, quick thinking.

Blink*

Visual perceptual skills and concept development

Websites

- www.starfall.com Reading website with a wide variety of reading activities
- www.bbc.co.uk/schools/ - very useful source of materials for adults and older teenagers
- www.jigzone.com - Jigsaws online, which develop spatial awareness, visual discrimination and perceptual organization.
- www.freotypinggame.net
- www.ultimatevocabulary.com – suitable for adults and older teenagers
- www.ultimatememory.com – excellent memory-building activities for older learners
- www.visionandlearning.org – Very interesting and comprehensive website which explains visual perception and suggests activities and resources.
- www.childrensvision.com – visual perceptual information
- www.lumosity.com – memory and perceptual activities which are useful to many older learners.
- <http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/typing>
- www.assistive.dtsl.co.nz – assistive technology website with a variety of resources
- www.writeonhandwriting.com – useful handwriting website