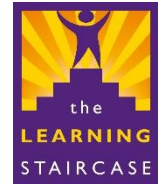




Recommended Game and Teaching Resources



The following games and teaching resources are ones we found useful in our teaching centre. They can be used to supplement/reinforce any structured research-based literacy programme. Publishers/stockists are given where possible, but all are fairly easily found by just googling them. Resources with a * are especially recommended for home/family use.

Software/online programmes available through Learning Staircase:

StepsWeb.com* – structured literacy programme with advanced diagnostic facilities and automatic analysis of errors. Multi-sensory, effective and easy to use at home or school. Can be used on any device (needs internet, of course!). Free trial available:

www.stepsweb.com

Steps Network/Home – software equivalent, which only works on computer or laptop. Workbook courses support Network and StepsWeb.



Other software/online resources we'd recommend

Kidspiration – www.inspiration.com/Kidspiration.

Teaches planning and mind-mapping. Great tool to use if you're planning a story or assignment. Very visual and intuitive

EnglishType – www.englishtype.com

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

MathsBuddy – Online maths programme which caters for a wide range of levels. Visual and intuitive. www.mathsbuddy.co.nz.

Thinking Things 3 – This is a really old programme now (1995), but it's still available. It has several activities, some of which aren't that useful for this kind of tuition. However, there are three activities which are particularly useful for developing visual perception, working memory, sequencing skills and reasoning skills. Also, it's a bit of fun to have something which is non literacy-related!



Supporting materials and games

Oxford Reading Tree – available from many sources. UK resource

Massive collection of resources, including sets of graded, levelled readers designed to develop phonic skills as well as sight vocabulary.

Key into Inference – Triune Publications – www.comprehenz.com.

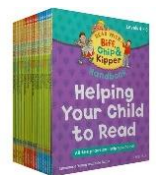
Excellent set of materials which develop comprehension, inferential thinking and vocabulary. We'd recommend using them as reading materials for learners who can read reasonably confidently at an 8 year level or above, but they can also be used as listening materials for learners below this reading level.

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

It's very rare to find activities which specifically target word retrieval. This is a very useful resource.

Counting Cubes (wooden blocks) – Educational Experience.

Can be used for a variety of visual and auditory memory activities, including the ability to follow instructions.



Games

Schools Resource Pack* – Learning Staircase

<https://learningstaircase.co.nz/products/schools-resource-pack/>

Comprehensive set of hands-on game/teaching resources which can be used for phonological awareness, phonic skills, memory and language skills. Individual game sets can be purchased separately and include extensive teaching instructions. Suitable for teachers/tutors and home-schoolers.



Blokus* – standard 4-player version (not the 3D one)* - Visuo-spatial awareness, strategic thinking. All ages from 6+.

Foursite* – www.slickerstickers.co.nz.

Great game for visual perception, thinking skills and planning. There is a 3D version, which is likely to be too difficult for educational purposes, but the older version is just great.

Sequence* – Ventura Games

Particularly good for visual perception and sequencing. 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 – www.thinkshop.org

Three workbooks, which develop listening skills and working memory.

A to Z for Kidz* - Google for stockists

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

Chunks – Smart Kids www.smartkids.co.nz

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

Alphabet Letters – www.juniorlearning.com

These are lovely clear shapes, which are ideal for literacy activities. Consonants blue and vowels red.

Stile Dyslexia – www.ldlearning.com

A great set of supplementary resources to reinforce your teaching. Hands-on activities with self-checking functions. Covers phonic patterns and spelling rules.

Gridworks – www.puzzles.com

Excellent resource which develops thinking skills, working memory and visual perception.

Cross-eyed – The Green Board Game Co. www.greenboardgames.com.

We think this isn't available from them anymore, but it's worth getting from other sources if you can obtain it. Develops visual perceptual skills, including visual recognition.

Lonpos Pyramid* (see illustration) – Google for stockists

Good for spatial awareness, visual perception and thinking skills.



SET* - www.setgame.com

This can be played online, but the hands-on card resource is great to use. Very enjoyable. Develops visual perceptual skills, understanding of concepts and quick thinking.

Blink* - www.fishpond.co.nz

Visual perceptual skills and concept development.

Websites

- www.stepsweb.com – Online literacy programme catering for all ages 6 to adult. Structured literacy course, diagnostic facilities, educational games and ability to be customized. Choice of accents: UK, Kiwi and Australian.
- 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 organisation. Tips: Choose a picture with distinct shapes and don't choose more than 50 pieces.
- www.freetypinggame.net – Typing website. Generally, dyslexic learners need more structure (see EnglishType above), but this has lots of useful reinforcement activities.
- 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 (paid content).
- www.bbc.co.uk/schools/typing - Useful typing reinforcement activities
- assistive.dtsl.co.nz – assistive technology website with a variety of resources.
- www.writeonhandwriting.com – Useful handwriting website.

StepsWeb images

