

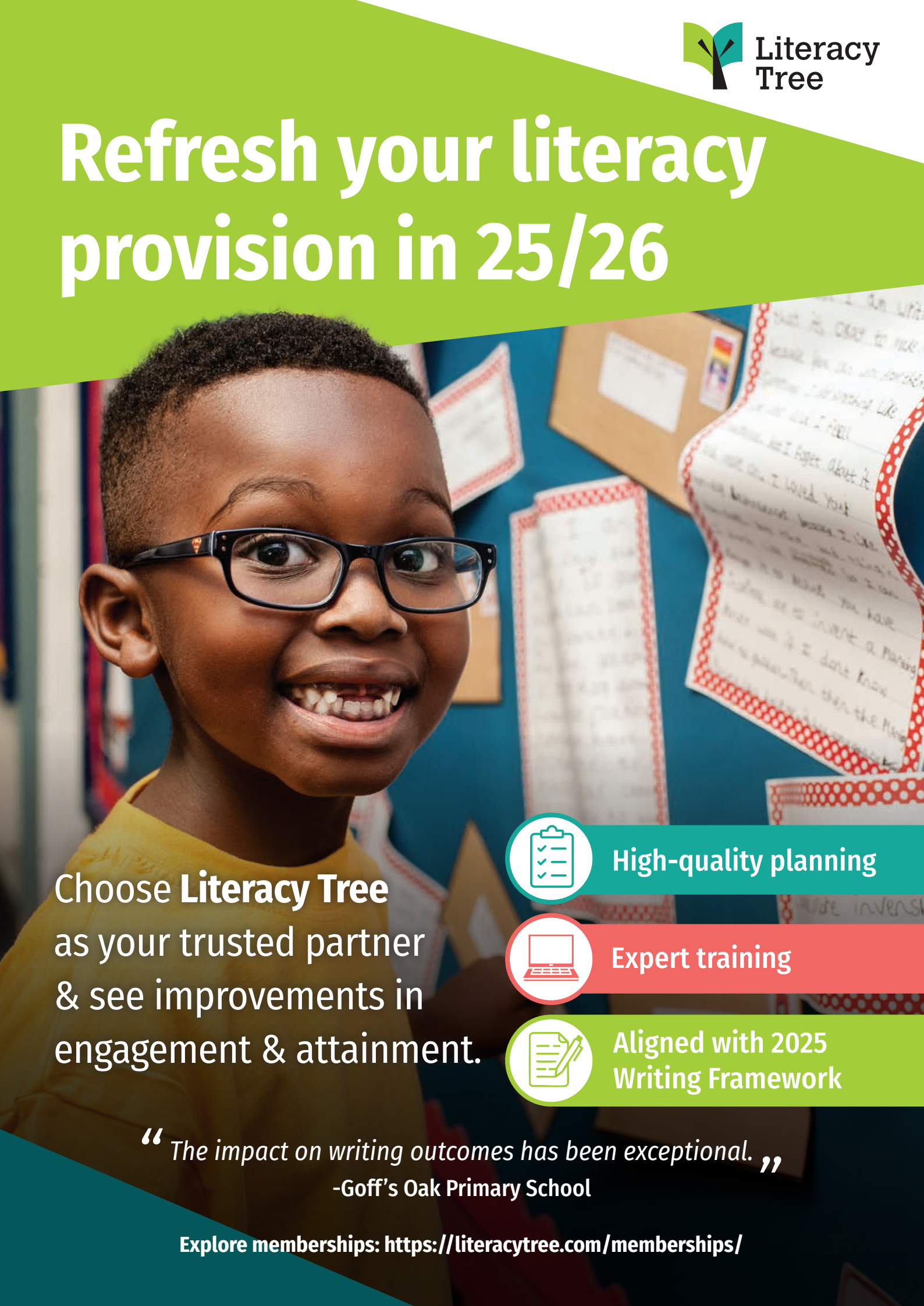
ESSENTIAL

School Resources 25/26

SMART SUPPORT FOR SAVVY EDUCATORS



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“The impact on writing outcomes has been exceptional.”
-Goff's Oak Primary School

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SMART SUPPORT FOR SAVVY EDUCATORS



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WHY I LOVE...

ABOUT US:

NAME: JUST IMAGINE

The Reading Journey promotes 'Reading for Pleasure' and revolutionises reading records. This digital application offers a user-friendly and appealing interface for children, as well as a time-saving monitoring dashboard for teachers.

Talking About: THE READING JOURNEY FROM JUST IMAGINE

Responding to concerns over the reported decline in children's voluntary reading necessitates engaging and meaningful support to promote reading conversations and document individual reading journeys.



“How does it promote reading for pleasure?”

Children build their reading identities with a personalised bookshelf and an avatar that reflects their reading preferences. A class presentation view makes it easy for the whole class to see each other's book choices. It facilitates the sharing of children's favourite books and can be used as a tool to enhance 'Book Talk', which is central to a 'Reading for Pleasure' pedagogy. Test teachers loved this feature. It includes an online journal with an audio option, enabling children to record their responses to their reading material. No more lost or damaged reading record books!

“How can teachers monitor progress?”

The teacher dashboard provides an at-a-glance view of children's recent reading activity. A one-page view makes it easy to view all pupils' latest journal entries without having to flip through individual record books. Teachers can also enable features such as parent commenting and end-of-book tasks. Additionally, teachers have the option to record professional notes.

“How do teachers motivate and engage children?”

Teachers can communicate via the messaging facility. When time is short, a quick tick sends a friendly, encouraging message to the child. Teachers can choose to send more specific guidance or encouragement. Optionally, they may



Contact:
Visit: thereadingjourney.co.uk/
Email: assistant@justimagine.co.uk



decide to award badges for positive reading behaviour, for example, being an adventurous reader or a resilient reader. Testing teachers found the children responded positively to this. Sam Creighton, teacher at Elmhurst Primary School in Newham, said: "The children enjoyed receiving feedback and badges."

“Can it be used for reading at home?”

Yes, children are encouraged to record their home reading. The optional parent messaging feature allows families to communicate quickly and easily with their child's teacher, using a drop-down menu or a text messaging option.

“What does support look like?”

Take advantage of the free webinars from Just Imagine that provide practical support for teachers seeking to develop their 'Reading for Pleasure' pedagogy. Hosted by Nikki Gamble, author of *Exploring Children's Literature* and co-author of *Guiding Readers*.

WILL IT WORK FOR YOU?

- A simple, easy-to-use solution for recording independent reading
- Underpinned by an understanding of Reading for Pleasure principles
- The Reading Journey is developed and tested with over 300 teachers and children
- Cost-effective with a low-cost annual subscription for unlimited users in schools

5 REASONS TO TRY... Historic Royal Palaces

Study significant individuals with editable resources and informative videos



30 SECOND BRIEFING

Explore six fascinating historical figures with ready-to-use KS1 resources. Developed by Historic Royal Palaces, these practical, trustworthy, and time-saving video-led lessons include source-based tasks, support materials, and guides.

1 ENGAGING AND EDITABLE

Each historical figure is introduced through a warm, engaging video created specifically for Year 1 and 2 pupils. The characters come to life in a way that captures young imaginations. Each video also includes accompanying editable resources and watch-along guides designed to support teachers in confidently delivering lessons about significant individuals.

2 EXPLORING 'HOW DO WE KNOW?'

Each figure is explored through the lens of historical enquiry, encouraging pupils to ask, "How do we know about this person today?" Linking directly to primary evidence, students learn to think like historians at an age-appropriate level, building a strong foundation.

3 PRIMARY SOURCES

You can use the Dedicated Primary Source PowerPoint tasks to help children investigate real historical sources. These age-appropriate source activities nurture early enquiry skills and provide opportunities for observation, discussion, and questioning.

4 INTRODUCING BIG IDEAS, GENTLY

These resources gently open the door to wider historical themes such as gender equality, migration, disability, and empire through the stories of real people. The narratives are carefully crafted to prompt curiosity and



Contact:

Website: hrp.org.uk/schools/significant-individuals-key-stage-1/
Email: digital.learning@hrp.org.uk

empathy, providing natural ways to raise complex topics in a safe, child-friendly context that builds cultural awareness and understanding.

5 TEACHER KNOWLEDGE BOOSTER

Each time period also has a simple knowledge booster to provide quick, accessible insights for teachers. Whether you're new to teaching history or just want a quick refresher, these give you the confidence to deliver the lessons with depth and accuracy.



KEY POINTS

Free to play and download (and edit!) from the Historic Royal Palaces website.

Created in collaboration with Mr T Does Primary History: trusted, high-quality, and engaging!

Designed specifically for KS1: captivating, accessible, and directly supporting the 'significant individuals' strand of the National Curriculum for history.

Editable and ready-to-go: perfect for teachers to tweak and tailor to suit their own classrooms and teaching styles.

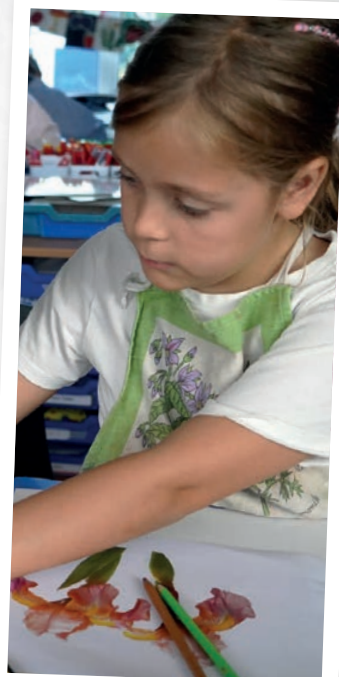
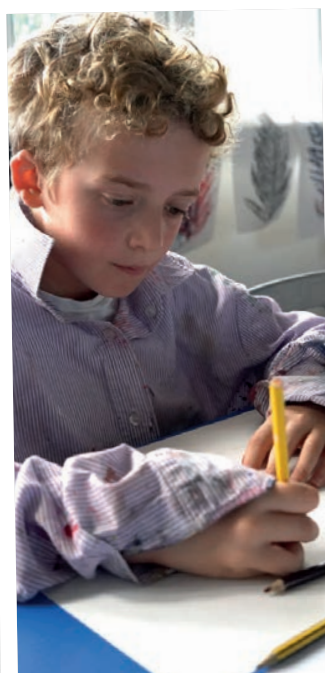
‘A teacher who believes in their own capacity to make a positive impact in the classroom is more likely to engage in pedagogical practices that will make a difference.’

National Education Union
25.03.2025



Bringing back a of learning

The Cornerstones Curriculum and its pedagogy brings heart back to the classroom. It's the perfect balance between creativity, skills and knowledge to engage all children and bring back a love of learning.



www.cornerstoneseducation.co.uk

Q&A

“Children deserve learning that excites and engages them”

Melanie Moore, curriculum director and author, on using child-centred learning to inspire meaningful experiences



30 SECOND BRIEFING

Over the past 15 years, we've built a range of curriculum options that are fully resourced, adaptable, and supported by real experts. Whether it's our knowledge-rich, creative or subject-specific options, everything is rooted in a child-centred pedagogy that values curiosity and creativity.

Why does bringing back a love of learning matter so much right now?

After more than fifteen years working with schools, I've never felt it more urgent to revive a love of teaching and learning, especially in primary schools. With rising pupil absenteeism, growing mental health concerns, and an increasing number of talented teachers feeling burnt out or ready to leave the profession, it's clear something needs to change. Children deserve learning that excites them. Teachers deserve to feel proud and inspired by what they teach.

Why is pedagogy just as important as curriculum?

Because content is only half the story. It's how we teach the curriculum that brings it to life, not what we have printed on paper documents or saved on our laptops. At Cornerstones, our curriculum is built around a Reggio Emilia-inspired, child-centred pedagogy that encourages exploration, enquiry and meaningful learning. It doesn't just engage children—it re-energises teachers too.

How do you promote a love of learning in practice?

Our expertly crafted curriculum projects are designed to be immersive and inspiring, helping teachers teach with confidence and flair. Our advisers—many of whom are former school leaders—work closely with schools to tailor and embed the curriculum, making it relevant, creative and



manageable. We support schools to bring back excitement, not just coverage. So many schools say that our advisers have helped them enormously and really value their support.

Why is teacher agency so important?

Teachers are naturally creative and love designing engaging activities. It's a rewarding part of the job that many enjoy. Maestro, our curriculum platform, supports this by offering flexible resources and ideas, saving time while allowing teachers to adapt lessons to fit their children's needs. With the freedom to choose what, when, and how to

Contact:

Phone: 03333 20 8000

Email: enquiries@cornerstoneseducation.co.uk

Website: www.cornerstoneseducation.co.uk

X: @Cornerstonesedu

LinkedIn: Cornerstones Education



ABOUT

MELANIE: Melanie Moore is the curriculum director and author at Cornerstones Education.

teach, and the ability to add their ideas, teachers can have greater passion, purpose, and confidence.

How is Cornerstones different from other curriculum providers?

We don't just offer content – we provide a complete curriculum solution with expert support, a powerful planning platform, and a child- and teacher-centred approach. We walk alongside schools, not ahead of them, and remain committed to our mission. If you're looking to bring more life into your curriculum, we invite you to discover how we can work together to make teaching more engaging, purposeful, and impactful for everyone involved.

What's the difference?

- + A choice of engaging curriculums with expert support, a powerful planning platform (Maestro) and integrated assessment.
- + Engaging, inspiring and quality teaching and learning resources that help teachers teach with confidence.
- + A pedagogy rooted in the values of childhood that values curiosity and creativity.

4 REASONS TO TRY... Ann Arbor Publishers (AAP)

Since 1972, AAP has been one of the leading UK suppliers of educational assessment tools and resources



1 PRICE MATCH PROMISE
If customers find any product for less elsewhere, including VAT and UK mainland delivery, we promise to match that price and send a FREE GIFT. We are happy to consider ordering in products that we do not stock, on customer request. **Free UK delivery applies to all orders over £100.**

2 PERSONAL CONSULTANCY SERVICE
AAP prides itself on being able to offer a free, prompt and personal all-year-round consultancy service where customers can email their queries regarding product choice, exam arrangements, SpLD/SEND or any teaching or assessment matter,

and have them answered by return email and/or a personal telephone call, invariably within 24 hours.

3 SAME-DAY DESPATCH
In-stock products are despatched on the same day if ordered before 2pm. Customers wishing to examine products prior to purchase, may avail of our 15-day sale or return service. Products (other than software) may be returned in 'as new' condition within 15 days for full refund or account credit.

4 DISCOUNT OPPORTUNITIES
AAP maintains close links with a variety of the UK's leading support and training

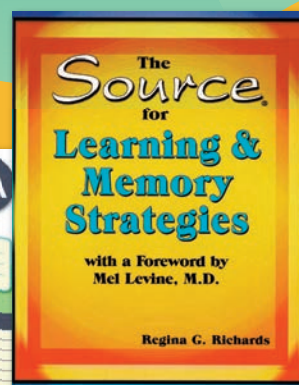
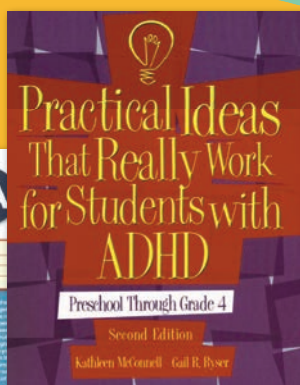
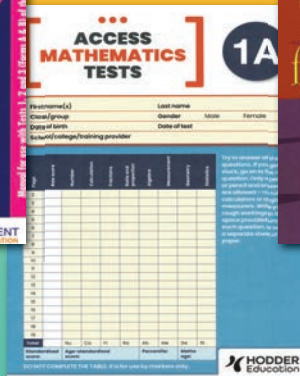
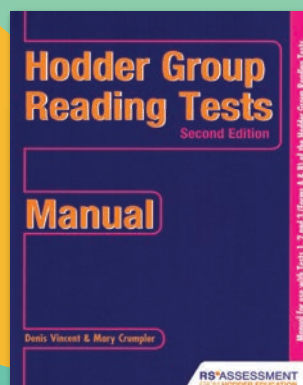
organisations in the field of SpLD/SEND. Product discounts are consistently available to members of such organisations.

Contact:
Web: www.annarbor.co.uk
Email: enquiries@annarbor.co.uk
Tel: 01668 214460

At a glance

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5 REASONS TO TRY... Sumdog's Fluency Booster

Flexible, engaging game-based learning to develop number sense and boost fluency in maths



30 SECOND BRIEFING

Sumdog's Fluency Booster is an adaptive maths tool designed to enhance core number skills. It uses engaging, games-based practice to develop number sense and boost fluency in pupils aged five to 11, while enabling teachers to track progress



1 INSIGHTFUL SUPPORT FOR TEACHERS

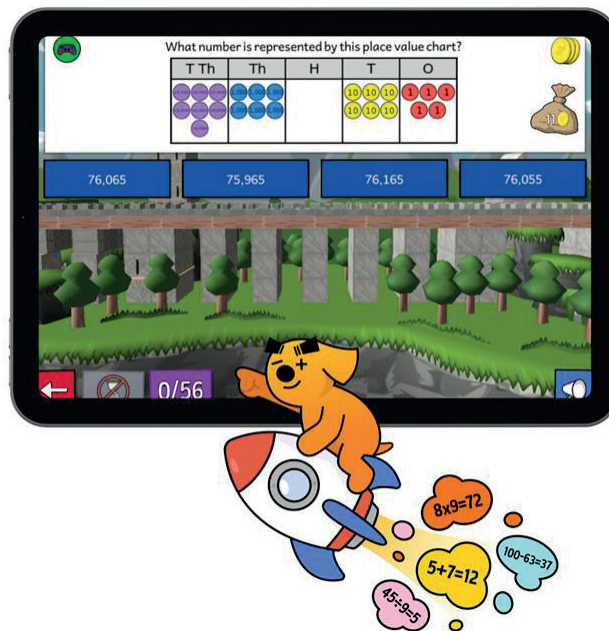
Sumdog's Fluency Booster provides teachers with instant visibility into pupil progress across core number skills for Years 1-6. Reports such as the Fluency Focus and Intervention Summary reveal areas of strength and improvement, making it simple to organise intervention groups and celebrate pupil achievements. Data on accuracy, engagement time, and skill acquisition are available, enabling targeted interventions that ensure each learner receives the attention they need to succeed in primary maths.

2 ENGAGING GAME-BASED LEARNING

Through over 35 interactive Sumdog games, pupils build fluency in a way that feels both fun and rewarding. As they tackle maths questions, they earn coins and unlock achievements, sustaining enthusiasm and reinforcing effort. The platform adapts to individual ability, providing suitable levels of challenge and support. By blending enjoyment with skill development, children gain confidence while mastering the fundamentals – transforming practice into play.

3 FLEXIBLE LEARNING

Designed to fit into various school routines, Fluency Booster works well in class, at home, or for focused catch-up. A recommended 30 minutes of weekly use drives measurable improvement. No matter



Contact:

Call: 0131 226 1511
Email: info@sumdog.com
Visit: learn.sumdog.com

Teachers benefit from valuable insights that guide timely support and highlight successes, whether it's for revision, extension, or targeted intervention.

the setting, its flexibility allows for consistent reinforcement, meeting pupils where they are and helping them stay on track with their learning journey.

4 ACCELERATING PROGRESS WITH PRECISION

Using adaptive technology, Sumdog's Fluency Booster delivers customised practice that boosts pupil confidence and deepens number fluency. It supports a wide range of learning needs, allowing schools to close gaps, reinforce understanding, and nurture growth.

5 CORE MATHS SKILLS FOCUS

Catering to pupils in Years 1-6, Fluency Booster centres on fundamental topics such as place value, counting, number bonds, and arithmetic. Learners engage with up to five skills simultaneously, advancing at a pace suited to their needs. The adaptive system promotes strong conceptual understanding and avoids rote memorisation, preparing children to tackle new mathematical challenges with confidence.

KEY POINTS

Adaptive learning journeys tailor fluency practice to each pupil's needs, helping them master core number skills efficiently while teachers gain actionable insights for targeted support.

Engaging, games-based practice builds number sense through structured repetition, ensuring pupils consolidate foundational maths skills without relying solely on memorisation or rote learning.

Teacher dashboards provide detailed fluency reports, enabling seamless monitoring of progress, pinpointing learning gaps, and guiding interventions - all without adding to the workload.

Fluency Booster works seamlessly anywhere, supporting learning both in class and at home with just 30 minutes of weekly practice for long-lasting progress.



STABILO® MARKdry...

The **STABILO MARKdry** is a fantastic tool for teachers using whiteboards, chalkboards, glass, or flipcharts. This dry marker pencil offers vibrant colours and is environmentally friendly.

Crafted from 100% PEFC-certified wood, it lasts up to five times longer than traditional liquid markers, reducing waste and replacement costs.

Cleanup is easy—simply wipe it off non-porous surfaces with a dry or damp cloth, and it washes off hands or clothes without hassle. With no cap to lose and no risk of drying out, it ensures a mess-free experience.

Enhance your lessons with clear, colourful writing using the **STABILO MARKdry**, and make a greener choice for your classroom!



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the whiteboard marker alternative!



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30 SECOND BRIEFING

Dance Days provides educational dance workshops that can be tailored to meet your needs. Available on-site or via digitally enabled remote sessions, the workshops will enhance your pupils' learning, and help boost physical and mental wellbeing.

5 REASONS TO TRY... Dance Days

Educational dance workshops for schools

1 BOOST CONFIDENCE

Our workshops boost confidence through dance, while being informative and educational. This helps encourage children to enjoy physical education through engaging, non-traditional means. Using dance in your school is a great way to encourage physical exercise. It's fun and inclusive, and opens up PE to those pupils who can sometimes shy away from competitive sports. Dance doesn't require any specialist equipment – your school hall or dining room can easily serve as a temporary dance studio and suitable location for our workshops.

2 SUPPORT THE CURRICULUM

By incorporating themed dance into your curriculum and school events, our workshops bring classroom learning to life – making lessons more engaging, memorable, and enjoyable. Dance sessions can be tailored to complement nearly any subject, from geography and history to religious studies and multicultural celebrations, helping deepen pupils' understanding of the world beyond textbooks.

3 ENHANCE LEARNING WITH THEMES

We have a calendar full of topics that promote learning through dance. Dance can be used to improve mental and physical wellbeing and build confidence, all while learning new skills. Our events include Diwali, Christmas, Chinese New Year, World Book Day, St Patrick's Day, VE Day and many more. We can also provide workshops themed around a number of off-topic styles, such as street dance and musicals. We have previously worked with schools to



Dance
Days

Contact:

Visit: bit.ly/ESR24-DD

Email: teachprimary@dancedays.co.uk

Call: 0204 525 6644

run themed events around health and sport weeks, as well as multicultural celebrations – such as a day of languages.

4 IMPRESS AND ENGAGE CHILDREN

Alternatively, you can pick and mix from our different styles to build your very own Dance Day. A full list of our workshops is available at our website. Here is what others have to say: "The feedback from staff and children has been amazing, and they were so impressed with how the dance level was matched to the age range. Brickhill Primary would definitely use 'Dance Days' again." – Brickhill Primary School

5 SUPPORT A SMALL BUSINESS

As a proudly independent company, we offer a personal touch that sets us apart. Our small, dedicated team – including our creative director – works closely with each school to build lasting partnerships. Many of our schools have been dancing with us term after term, year after year.

We've also streamlined our booking process and workshop delivery to ensure everything runs smoothly, making your experience as stress-free as possible. Find out more by visiting bit.ly/ESR24-DD emailing us on teachprimary@dancedays.co.uk or calling 0204 525 6644.

KEY POINTS

Explore over 30 dance styles linking to celebrations, the curriculum and school topics, extracurricular events, history and countries across the world.

All members of our team possess extensive teaching experience and are DBS checked, with many of our team members returning regularly to schools.

We provide full insurance cover and risk assessments, and have over 1000 reviews from school teachers at reviews.io, with an average rating of 4.92 out of 5 stars.

We can dance with up to seven classes during a full school day, with one class per session, lasting 30 minutes for younger children, up to 45 minutes for KS2.

5 REASONS TO TRY... Kapow Primary

Get creative and provide full support with Kapow Primary's foundation offering



30 SECOND BRIEFING

Kapow Primary provides imaginative and impactful curriculum resources for foundation subjects, complete with built-in CPD. Trusted by over 8,000 schools, we're transforming teaching together – one lesson at a time.

1 A CURRICULUM YOU CAN TRUST

Kapow Primary's foundation offering delivers a knowledge-rich curriculum across all eight foundation subjects, built to engage pupils and boost teacher confidence. Each lesson is rooted in subject-specific pedagogy, aligned to the national curriculum, and designed to deepen understanding – not just to tick boxes. With clear progression built in, it's easy to know what to teach and when, no matter what year group you're in. Our flexible approach helps you tailor planning to your pupils, too, whether you're a subject leader, experienced teacher, or even completely new to delivering foundation subjects.

2 CPD, EVERY STEP OF THE WAY

We know that not every teacher is an expert in every subject, and that's where Kapow shines. Our built-in CPD videos are created by subject specialists and in-house video producers to walk you through key concepts, skills and teaching techniques before every lesson. From classroom modelling to curriculum design, we've got you covered. Whether you're brushing up on your drawing skills, learning how to use a micro:bit, or diving into modelling mechanisms and motors in design and technology, our resources will help you feel confident and supported. We help teachers teach brilliantly – even in subjects and approaches that are beyond their comfort zone.



Contact:

Visit: [kapowprimary.com](https://www.kapowprimary.com)

Email: enquiries@kapowprimary.com

3 DESIGNED FOR NON-SPECIALISTS

You don't need to be a musician, scientist or historian to teach like one. Kapow empowers generalist teachers to deliver outstanding lessons in every foundation subject. Our easy-to-follow lesson plans, teacher and pupil videos, and subject guides give you all the tools and support you need. There's no jargon or filler – just smart, supportive resources that save time and build confidence. Because when

teachers feel secure in what they're teaching, pupils thrive. We're here to champion teachers, however experienced they are in each subject.

4 BUILT FOR PROGRESSION

Progression is at the heart of every Kapow Primary scheme. Our spiral curriculum revisits key knowledge and skills over time, increasing in challenge to ensure all pupils make meaningful progress. Teachers can track learning clearly and consistently, while subject leaders can trust their curriculum is robust and well-sequenced. Recently awarded the 2025 BESA for Outstanding Curriculum and Assessment Resource, we also provide guidance for formative and summative assessment. It's everything Ofsted looks for—and, more importantly, everything your pupils need to succeed.

5 ALWAYS UP TO DATE

Our specialist team diligently updates Kapow's content to reflect changes in national guidance, pedagogical best practice and real classroom feedback. From incorporating world events and seasonal themes to refining individual lessons based on teacher input, we're always tweaking what we offer to better suit you. That means your school gets a curriculum that's not just high-quality and reliable, but also relevant and responsive. We take care of keeping them up-to-date, so that you can focus on doing what you do best – teaching.

KEY POINTS

Plan with purpose

Clear sequences and schemes designed to build knowledge over time, giving you confidence in your curriculum and clarity in your teaching.

Grow your expertise

Embedded CPD videos help you develop subject knowledge and teaching confidence – no matter your background or experience level.

Support every pupil

Our inclusive approach supports diverse learners, ensuring every child can succeed in foundation subjects, not just the core.

Teach creatively

Engaging lesson plans, dynamic activities and real-world connections make every subject come alive for your class.



Unlock the power of plants for your pupils

WITH THE RHS SCHOOL GARDENING AWARDS

- Earn **free** seeds, books and vouchers
- Develop new skills for life
- Improve pupil mental health and wellbeing
- Increase environmental awareness and nature connectedness
- Celebrate growing success

START
GROWING
TODAY



rhs.org.uk/schoolgardening/awards



5 REASONS TO TRY... The RHS School Gardening Awards

Free support to help your pupils get growing



30 SECOND BRIEFING

This free, five-level, flexible awards scheme offers achievable goals to help pupils of all ages experience benefits of gardening – from boosting wellbeing and gaining new skills, to supporting the environment and forging community links.

1 GET FREE RESOURCES

As you complete each of the five School Gardening Award levels, you will receive free resources, including seeds, books and National Garden Gift Vouchers, to help you continue your school gardening journey. You'll also receive a certificate and digital award logo to share your achievements.

2 BOOST WELLBEING

Connecting with plants and nature has a powerful impact on young people's mental health and wellbeing. A recent RHS report found that 96 percent of teachers observed a positive effect on young people's wellbeing through gardening. Taking part in the awards will support pupils to connect with others and feel more in tune with the natural world. Schools tell us that they see a real difference as children smile, breathe and relax when they are in the garden spaces.

3 DEVELOP SKILLS

The awards are designed to build and grow a wide range of skills that young people can carry into their lives beyond school. As well as learning hands-on gardening skills such as sowing seeds, nurturing seedlings, and taking cuttings, they will also develop teamwork, communication, leadership, and problem-solving skills. Gardening can also help build confidence, patience, and resilience.

4 SUPPORT THE ENVIRONMENT

Through the School Gardening Awards, pupils can learn how small, simple actions can help protect the planet.



Contact:

Email: schoolgardening@rhs.org.uk

5 CULTIVATE COMMUNITY LINKS

The final award level includes a focus on building connections beyond the school gates. Whether it's gardening with family members, past or future pupils or welcoming community volunteers, gardening can unite people of all ages.

From collecting rainwater and growing food, to creating habitats for wildlife, with schools transforming grey spaces by growing plants that will flower, fruit and seed through the year. The award criteria will help empower young people to take environmental action, no matter the size of your school's growing space.

KEY POINTS

Give your pupils the chance to develop green fingers and learn new skills while enjoying the great outdoors; start your school's gardening journey today at rhs.org.uk/schoolgardening/awards

100 per cent of schools that have taken part in previous years stated in a recent survey (July 2025), that they would recommend the awards to other schools.

Grow your teaching with free eLearning - build confidence, skills, and plant power in your classroom. Start today: rhs.org.uk/schoolgardening/training

Find out more about the RHS School Gardening Awards, and sign up to receive our monthly newsletter packed with tips, advice and school case studies at rhs.org.uk/schoolgardening/signup

Noris

NEW!



Head of ideas.



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HANDWRITING PEN

Available from all top Education suppliers!

DRY SAFE ink means
the cap can be left off for
days without drying out



Hard-wearing plastic tip
withstands pressure and provides
resistance against paper.

Line width
0.6mm



Housing made from 97%
recycled plastic (includes
barrel, endcap, and lid)

Available in
10 vibrant colours



THE WOW FACTOR

Inspire innovation and creativity with the high-quality Noris Handwriting Pen



Since 1835, STAEDTLER has inspired creativity around the world with high-quality tools designed for writing, drawing, and expressing ideas. From classrooms to studios, its products like the iconic Noris pencil and colourful pens, are trusted for their performance and reliability. Rooted in German craftsmanship and innovation, STAEDTLER combines tradition with a commitment to sustainability. Whether you're sketching, studying, or crafting your next big idea, STAEDTLER makes it easy to bring imagination to life, clearly, confidently, and responsibly.



Contact:

Email: sales.uk@staedtlr.com
Call: 0345 034 0756



Eco-conscious

Crafted with care for both performance and the planet, our Noris Handwriting Pens feature a housing made from 97 per cent recycled plastic. This eco-conscious design blends sustainability with quality, helping young writers thrive while reducing environmental impact – a win-win.

Mess-free writing

The Noris Handwriting Pen uses water-based ink that's gentle on paper and easy on clothes, washing out of most textiles with ease. Perfect for school use, it offers a smooth writing experience while giving parents peace of mind. With Noris, everyday writing is clean, simple, worry-free and accidents are no problem!

Colour options

The Noris Handwriting Pen launched in five vibrant colours – black, blue, green, red, and purple – based on teacher feedback. Perfect for writing, marking, and peer review, it stands out in the classroom. In 2025, five new shades – bright yellow, pale green, warm sepia, delft blue, and magenta pink – will further enhance creative learning.

Built for busy days

The Noris handwriting pen features DRY SAFE ink, so it won't dry out even if the cap is left off for days – perfect for busy classrooms and young writers. This smart design ensures long-lasting performance and fewer interruptions, making Noris the reliable, stress-free choice for everyday handwriting and learning.



30 SECOND BRIEFING

With more than 450 lessons suitable for KS1 and KS2 learners, FlashAcademy®'s award winning learning app and assessment platform is built to support your primary EAL pupils. Trusted by 2,400+ schools, colleges, charities and businesses.

5 REASONS TO TRY... FlashAcademy®

Make learning a language feel like an achievement, not a chore, with this inclusive learning environment

1 BUILD VOCABULARY FAST

FlashAcademy® helps learners grow their everyday English skills – from classroom instructions to daily routines. Short lessons focus on real-life language they can use straight away. The platform supports consistent progress with engaging content, making it easier for pupils to access learning and feel part of school life. Visual prompts and activities help children connect meaning to words, while spoken tasks support pronunciation and confidence. Teachers can see exactly how pupils are getting on and tailor support as needed.



Contact:
Email: team@flashacademy.com
Visit: flashacademy.com

The partially correct feature highlights when pupils have mostly answered a question correctly but show a specific area for improvement – for example, confusing *their*, *there* and *they're*, while still communicating their message clearly. Importantly, teachers maintain full control – from top level summaries to per question feedback, teachers can review every decision made by the AI-reviewer and adjust grades if required.

2 MAKE LEARNING REWARDING

Motivation is key when learning a new language. FlashAcademy® uses gamified learning to keep pupils engaged from start to finish and encourage independent learning. Interactive lessons, flashcards and reward features help build confidence and encourage independence. Pupils enjoy learning in bite-sized chunks, which suits different attention spans and needs. Schools have noticed improved behaviour and enthusiasm during EAL sessions, with children excited to show their progress. FlashAcademy® makes learning feel like an achievement, not a chore.

vocabulary while maintaining a link to their cultural identity. Pupils can switch between English and their home language to help build understanding and confidence. This helps reduce anxiety and gives learners a sense of belonging. It also supports families, who can follow their child's progress and get involved. Teachers say this approach makes a real difference to engagement and helps children feel valued from the very beginning.

4 SAVE TIME AND GAIN INSIGHT

FlashAcademy® now includes AI-assisted marking, which reviews all four skills. Spot patterns of learning proficiency at pupil, class and whole school level. AI-assisted marking is reported to save teachers on average 150 hours per year – giving them more time to help learners to thrive.

5 TRACK PROGRESS

FlashAcademy® assessments can be used to identify pupils' starting points as soon as they join a school. From there, teachers can measure progress with clear, visual data that's easy to share with leaders, inspectors and parents. The platform shows how each pupil is developing over time, giving schools confidence in the impact of their EAL provision. Whether tracking whole-cohort progress or checking on an individual learner, FlashAcademy® puts the right information at your fingertips.

3 SUPPORT INCLUSION

The digital learning app can be accessed in 48 different languages, helping learners understand new

KEY POINTS

Curriculum-aligned lessons help pupils build the vocabulary and skills they need to succeed in school life and access classroom learning across subjects.

The automatic tracking feature means no extra marking for teachers. See each pupil's progress instantly and plan the right support with ease.

With support for 48 different languages, FlashAcademy® helps learners build English while staying connected to their identity and culture through their mother tongue.

Fun, gamified lessons and flashcards make language learning exciting, helping boost pupil motivation, confidence and classroom engagement.



PARTNER CONTENT

ASK THE EXPERT

“It’s time to talk safer handling”

Doug Melia, director of Safer Handling International, on navigating training, terminology and implementing appropriate strategies to protect pupils and staff

To train or not to train?

In line with department guidance, it is the headteacher’s duty to ensure all staff understand their power to use reasonable force. This shouldn’t mean reactive training after harm has occurred, sending injured staff off on a local authority course. Schools need a proactive, whole-school approach. That includes regular incident debriefs, sharing of ‘near misses’, and performing a training needs analysis. This identifies which staff need support, what type, and why – creating a culture of confidence, accountability, and skill, not silence and blame.

What’s in a name?

Whether it’s called ‘positive handling’, ‘safer handling’, ‘therapeutic holding’, ‘teamteach’ or ‘crisis intervention’, it all refers to the use of reasonable force. There is no regulatory body for physical intervention training, and the Department for Education and Ofsted do not recommend specific providers. The choice – and the liability – rests with the headteacher. What matters is not the label, but whether the training is evidence-informed, risk-assessed and tailored to the specific needs of your setting; not because they’re available for your INSET day or who boasts the lowest price.

What training do we need?

Training should be effective, but some approaches are too reliant on physical skills. In schools there are alternatives to floor holds in the form of Safetypods or even containment. There are still providers teaching planned single-person holds (inconsistent with manual handling regs) and others deny the reality that these incidents do happen and fail to prepare staff with skills that work should they need to physically intervene. Strategies should be scaled to the size and needs of your pupils – especially in early years – and the physical capability of staff who are smaller



EXPERT PROFILE

NAME: Doug Melia

JOB TITLE: Director of Safer Handling International

AREA OF EXPERTISE: Reasonable force

in stature expected to manage larger children. Training should prepare staff for real-life scenarios, including safe disengagement skills like bite and grip releases that actually work. It must promote alternatives and teach staff to critically assess where physical intervention helps, and where it is either not appropriate, ineffective or inflammatory.

Does containment work?

Preventing exits from site or to restricted areas for those too vulnerable to be allowed to leave (generally younger children although this would apply to older SEN pupils), creating barriers, restricting access or locking a door, although contentious, may be a safer way of handling a child in crisis than staff placing hands. Seclusion can never be used as a punishment, also pupils don’t necessarily need to be confined to a certain room, as concentric layers of corridors, yards and open spaces should be considered in line with distraction and withdrawal strategies when dynamically assessing risk. When planned, risk-assessed and monitored appropriately, containment can reduce harm, escalation and intrusion. A blanket ban on seclusion can ironically lead to more holds, more upset and therefore more trauma. Schools should prioritise not just safe spaces, but consider safe faces – switching out to trusted staff who can better support children’s self-regulation in times of crisis.

ASK ME ABOUT

STAFF TRAINING on our online learning platform and face-to-face sessions to promote understanding of their powers and duties

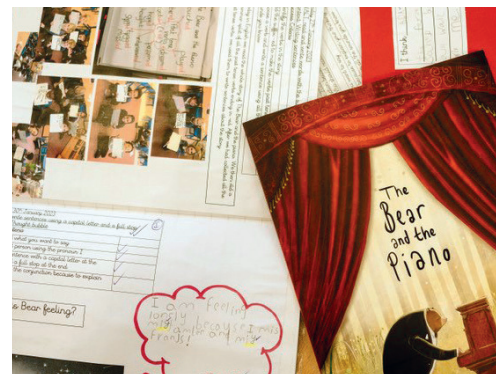
BESPOKE AUDITS and policy reviews to improve how incidents, near misses and restrictive practices are handled and recorded

SUPPORT FOR LEADERS to embed safer handling into school culture

Visit: safer-handling.co.uk Email: info@safer-handling.co.uk
Phone: +44 0330023 5636

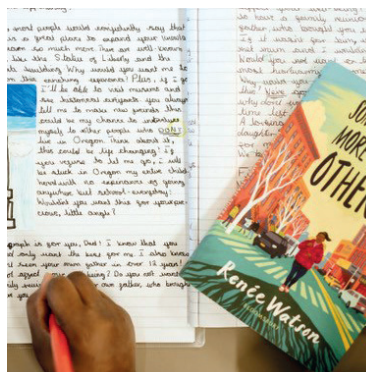
LITERACY Literacy Tree

A complete book-based platform for English teaching in primary schools



AT A GLANCE

- A complete book-based approach to teaching the English curriculum
- High-quality planning to save teachers time
- A practical approach to teaching a text-based curriculum, full of strategies and ideas for immediate classroom use
- Teach Primary and Bett award winners



REVIEWED BY: JOHN DABELL

A complete book-based approach to teaching English makes perfect sense as developing a love of reading is one of the most effective ways a school can raise attainment.

If you are looking to oxygenate children's learning through great literature then Literacy Tree have the air supply you need to improve attainment, health and wellbeing, and creativity across the curriculum.

Their 'Teach Through a Text' approach is about creating a thriving reading and writing culture by putting great novels, poetry collections, and high-quality non-fiction books at the very heart of English teaching, transforming children's attitudes to literacy and having a positive impact on learning.

They provide everything you need, with techniques and activities to teach grammar, punctuation, spelling, comprehension and writing. They also offer plenty of support and guidance on planning lessons and units for meaningful layered learning including mixed aged planning. Resources can be used as a complete scheme of work or adopted and adapted to suit accordingly. Access superb classroom toolkits, book lists, literature reviews, curriculum tips and home learning guidance.

Literacy Tree's approach is incredibly well-planned and thought through, with detailed guidance written by experts. They provide book-based planning sequences called Writing Roots that engage children to discover and take on the mantle of the expert helping them to write with clear audience and purpose. Everything sits under a literary theme and children journey through whole books and so upgrade their comprehension

skills progressively as part of their critical readers training.

What I like the most is the way Literacy Tree have embedded a real sense of community through their site with an authentic purpose of communicating information and shared experiences in relation to texts, activities and displays with others.

The thinking behind the resources places the learner centre stage and builds their self-efficacy by ensuring success in reading and writing.

Supporting all this, Literacy Tree have carefully selected an impressive range and breadth of authors, illustrators and genres to help teachers ensure progression within and across year groups. Here you will find a richness, diversity, flexibility and choice combined with an unrelenting focus upon, and immersion in, reading for pleasure. Their free Curriculum Maps are impressive and showcase all the books on offer, books that are right, relevant and full of representation.

In addition to their sumptuous suite of books, Literacy Tree have also designed and built a completely free and easy-to-access downloadable app for annotating, capturing and assessing work.

Training and support are readily available and included in membership, with regular online training sessions, pedagogy workshops and networking events, plus planning support for teachers

This is teaching English by the book. It lays the foundations for you to build and embed a reading and writing culture and community in the fabric of your school.

**teach
PRIMARY**

**teach
PRIMARY**
AWARDS 2022
WINNER

VERDICT

- ✓ The complete thematic book-based approach to improving literacy standards
- ✓ A platform full of responsibility, rigour and relevance
- ✓ Celebrates reading and writing giving both a high profile
- ✓ Superb planning notes and gilt-edged guidance
- ✓ Puts quality children's literature at the very heart of literacy learning
- ✓ Fosters a whole school love of oracy, reading and writing
- ✓ Enables children to become competent, confident and critical readers, writers and viewers of texts
- ✓ Encourages children to become life-long readers and writers

UPGRADE IF...

You are looking to teach the whole English curriculum creatively through quality children's literature and raise engagement and attainment in language, vocabulary, reading and writing.

See literacytree.com for pricing information.

MUSIC



Out of the Ark: *Groovin' – The Nativity*

An upbeat, feel-good Christmas musical for 7-11s that takes the pressure off teachers and brings the fun back to festive performances

Out of the Ark Music



AT A GLANCE

- Flexible script with casting suggestions and adaptable group sizes
- Brilliant songs that are catchy, easy to learn, and joyful to sing
- Comes with prop and costume ideas that won't break the bank
- Packed with age-appropriate humour and standout characters
- Part of Out of the Ark's trusted collection of Christmas productions



REVIEWED BY: EMMA THOMPSON

Ask any teacher what the end of the autumn term feels like, and the words “exhausted” and “stretched” tend to come up a lot. Throw in a school nativity and you're in full-on survival mode. That's why *Groovin' – The Nativity* from Out of the Ark feels like such a win. It's a real lifesaver.

Written for KS2 and bursting with energy, this is a Christmas show that hits the sweet spot between fun and manageable. It's full of humour (honestly, some of the lines made me laugh out loud), the songs are a pleasure to sing, and most importantly, it's genuinely easy to pull off. Even if you're short on time and feeling the end-of-term fatigue, it just works.

One of the things I really appreciate about all of Out of the Ark's productions (and this one is no different) is just how teacher-friendly everything is. The website is very easy to navigate, and once you've picked your show, you've got everything you need.

There's a flexible script with clear casting options, including suggested numbers for each part (which is brilliant for a variety of cohort sizes, and works for casts with numbers from as low as 21 to as high as 58), a prop list, and simple costume ideas that feel achievable and cost-effective. This means happy parents, and no 2am sewing sessions required!

“Even if you're short on time, and feeling the end-of-term fatigue, it works”

The characters are written with real care, too. There's a great mix of lines and roles so all children can be involved in a way that suits them, and the script is filled with personality. Gabriel is gloriously sassy, the narrators have fantastic one-liners, and Darrell the Disco Donkey might just be my favourite nativity character ever.

Then there are the songs: catchy, joyful, and incredibly easy to teach. They're inspired by the groove-worthy tunes of the 1970s and 80s, and are pitched just right for KS2; they'll definitely get stuck in your head, and are a massive hit with children and adults alike. The pack also includes clear stage directions and optional choreography links, which makes everything feel structured but still flexible. The editable script is a nice bonus as well; it's simple to tweak if you want to personalise it for your school, or add in the names of children playing the characters. You get an

editable script with any package that includes an eSongbook.

All in all, *Groovin' – The Nativity* delivers exactly what busy teachers need at this time of year. It's stress-free to put together, filled with festive spirit from start to finish, and gives your students a real moment to shine. Like all of Out of the Ark's Christmas shows, it's a guaranteed crowd-pleaser and a genuine pleasure to put on.

teach
PRIMARY

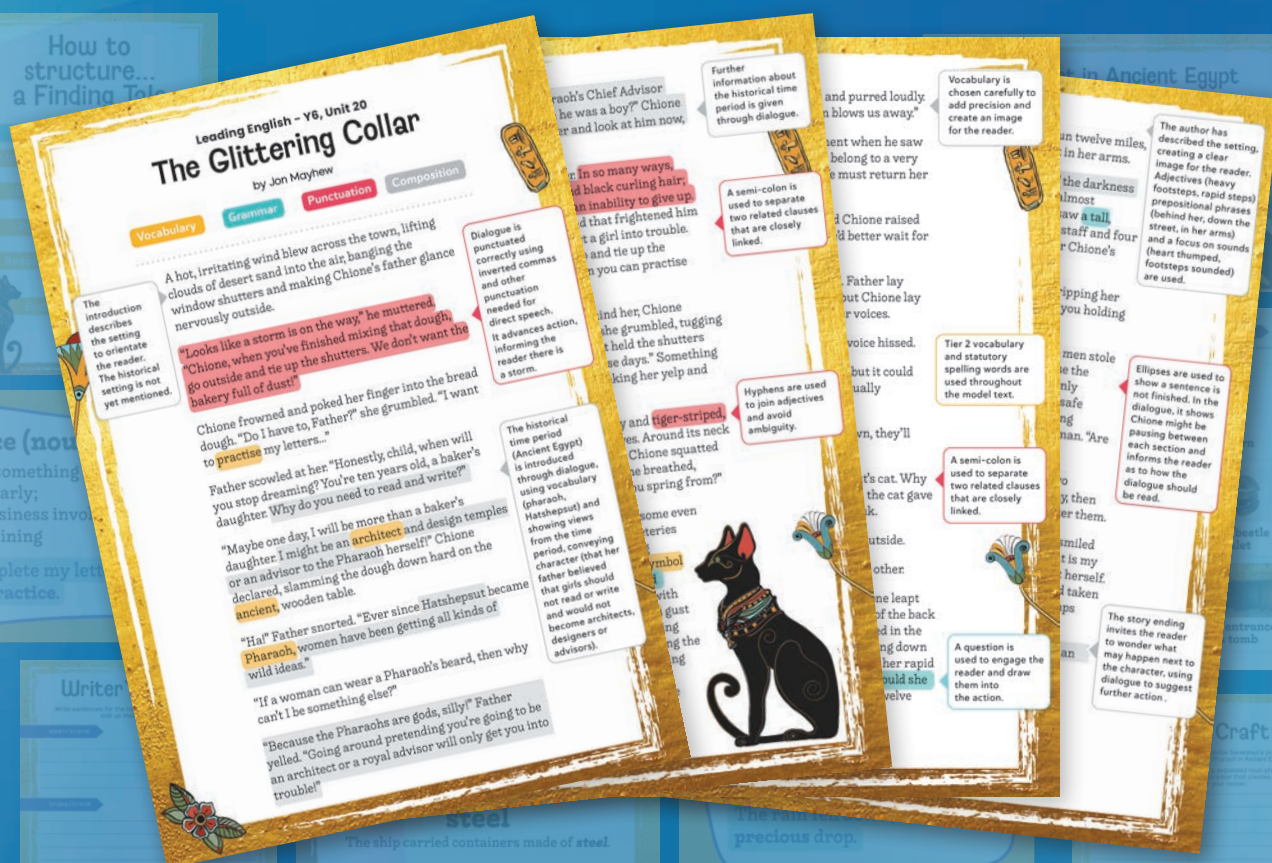
VERDICT

- ✓ Fun, flexible, and easy to stage
- ✓ Characters and songs that kids love
- ✓ Packed with personality and humour
- ✓ Helpful extras that save time and energy
- ✓ A go-to option for KS2 Christmas shows

UPGRADE IF...

You're looking to save time, cut the stress, and put on a brilliant Christmas show that children enjoy performing and families love watching.

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