

Gwobrau Llyfrau Sgiliau Sylfaenol



Basic Skills Book Awards

Best entries in the Basic Skills Book Awards 2003

QUALITY PUBLICATIONS
FOR BASIC SKILLS



CYNGOR LLYFRAU CYMRU
WELSH BOOKS COUNCIL



Strategaeth Genedlaethol Sgiliau Sylfaenol i Gymru
The National Basic Skills Strategy for Wales

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Noddir gan
Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru
Sponsored by
Welsh Assembly Government



FOREWORD

This booklet is designed to help teachers, parents, librarians and others who want to find the very best books and materials to help learners who are working to improve their basic skills – literacy and numeracy. It is the result of the first ever Basic Skills Book Awards. These Awards, which were announced in November 2003, were organised jointly by the Basic Skills Agency and the Welsh Books Council. The publications described in this booklet are those titles which were entered by their publishers and which were subsequently short-listed by expert screening panels. The prize-winning entries were chosen by a special Jury chaired by Glenys Kinnock, MEP. Both the panels and the Jury comprised leading experts in publishing and in basic-skills teaching in Wales. The Basic Skills Agency and the Welsh Books Council are delighted to endorse these publications and to encourage their widespread use.

Gwerfyl Pierce Jones
Director
Welsh Books Council

Alan Wells
Director
The Basic Skills Agency

In the opinion of the Jury, all the publications referred to in this booklet have met the standards expected for quality material catering for those with poor basic skills. The booklet does not include all materials available for each age group. It is based solely on those publications which were published between 1st January 1999 and May 2003 and were entered for the Awards, and which were then short-listed by the judges. The exception is the 'Livewire Series' which was developed by Hodder & Stoughton in close collaboration with the Basic Skills Agency. Because of this close connection, the Jury felt that it was fairer to exclude the series from the adjudication process but it has been included in this booklet because of its suitability for a wide range of young people and adults with basic skills needs.

Although we know that there have been improvements in performance in recent years, over a quarter of children, young people and adults in Wales have reading, writing and numeracy skills which are well below the level of which they should be capable. Those who work with learners who are struggling with poor basic skills know how important it is that publications are attractive and well produced, and make allowances for the fact that learners' chronological age is different from their reading age or numeracy level. This is particularly true for adults with poor basic skills, for whom there is still a dearth of good material. Learners of all ages need to be stimulated to want to learn, and the production and wider availability of interesting and relevant material will help to motivate and encourage them.

Glenys Kinnock, MEP
Jury Chair
Basic Skills Book Awards

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BASIC SKILLS BOOK AWARDS

The comments on each of the titles or series reflect the views of the screening panels. Most of these titles can be ordered through bookshops and details of the material is included on the Welsh Books Council's on-line book search and ordering service, *gwales.com*. Whatever the means of ordering, it would be useful for you to note the ISBN number. Items marked * are available only from the publishers and orders should be directed through them. Contact details are listed at the end of this booklet.

BOOKS AND MATERIALS FOR PRIMARY SCHOOL CHILDREN

To help improve reading skills in the English language



Act it Out!: Sglod and Chips

1859029477

Ruth Morgan

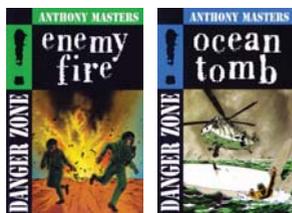
Illustrated by Suzanne Carpenter

Pont Books/Gomer Press

£25.00 sb

A play-pack with drama script based on the book of the same name about a chip-loving dog which likes to keep fit and saves a poodle from drowning. Each pack comprises five individual copies of the play with personalised copies for each of the four characters together with a separate copy for the director, containing stage directions. These different character copies use large bold type for the specific character. This useful feature helps to engage the reader and provides support and reassurance. There is also full-colour artwork on A3 sheets to use for making masks associated with the characters. One of the uses of this book would be to read aloud with children with poorer skills. The Jury felt that it was ideal for helping weaker readers understand the way in which text can come alive, as well as being an engaging way of ensuring that weaker readers participate in reading aloud. The pack also has a Teachers' Booklet incorporating text and non-fiction activities. There is also a Welsh-language version, *Drama Ddosbarth Sglod a Blod* (1859029493).

DANGER ZONE SERIES



Enemy Fire 0749650508

Extreme Survival 0749650524

Held to Ransom 0749650516

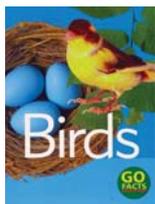
Ocean Tomb 0749650494

Anthony Masters

Franklin Watts

£3.99 each sb

This series contains exciting, dramatic and true-to-life adventure stories. The books bridge KS2 and KS3 and are interestingly designed to attract reluctant readers with an interest age of 8–14 years. The stories are based on fact and provide plenty of scope for related activities which will augment the pupil's understanding of the text. The language used is appropriate and the format and design is eye-catching.



Go Facts: Animal Starter Pack

071366617X

Paul McEvoy, Katy Pike, Sharon Dalgleish

A & C Black

24 pp each **£25.99** sb

Winner

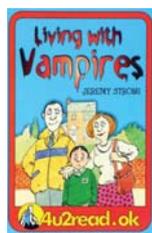
This pack comprises four science topic books together with a guide to using the books to help pupils with reading and writing non-fiction. Topics in this pack are Insects, Birds, Reptiles and Mammals. The books model key elements of non-fiction texts, e.g. contents lists, information reports, glossaries, labels, captions, print features and indexes. A supplementary *Go Facts: Animal Mixed Booster Pack* (0713665181 £15.99) is also available.

The series meets an important need for well presented factual material – something which may particularly appeal to boys. The format is appealing, the quality of the colour photography is excellent and the fresh, innovative design will appeal to a wide range of reluctant readers. The Teaching Guide covers a number of titles in the series and offers clear advice on using it. (There are also numerous other titles available in the *Go Facts* series.)

Livewires

See also details of the Livewire series on pages 7-8, some of which are aimed at primary age children.

SHORT NOVELS FROM BARRINGTON STOKE



Living with Vampires 1902260678

Living with Vampires (4u2read.ok series) 1842990586

Problems with a Python 1842990012

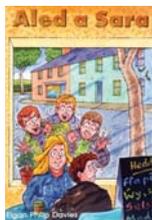
Jeremy Strong

Barrington Stoke Ltd

£4.99 each

These are stories with gripping plots and are particularly likely to appeal to boys. *Living with Vampires* is for readers with a reading age of 8 plus and there are twenty other titles in the series. The *4U2read.ok* range are for readers between 8 and 13, with a reading age of below 8 and there are twelve other titles in the series. *Living with Vampires* in the *4u2read.ok* series is a shortened version of the standard text, thus providing an alternative version to engage the reluctant reader. The books are accompanied by a cassette tape (Side A, *Problems with a Python*; Side B, *Living with Vampires* 1842990934 £9.99) which can be especially helpful to those who need assisted reading as they can listen along whilst reading. Barrington Stoke is a publisher which specialises in books for reluctant and under-confident readers. All books are 'road-tested' with such readers before publication.

To help improve reading skills in the Welsh language



CYFRES CLIC 1

Winner

Level 1 1856445240 **£19.95 per pack; Audio CD 0000873020 £9.95**

Level 2 1856445259 **£19.95 per pack; Audio CD 0000873055 £9.95**

Level 3 1856445267 **£19.95 per pack; Audio CD 000087308X £9.95**

CYFRES CLIC 2

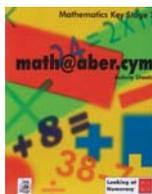
1856447227 **£22.50 per pack or £2.25 each**

Y Ganolfan Astudiaethau Addysg/Centre for Educational Studies,
Aberystwyth

This is a reading scheme on several levels for KS2/3 pupils with reading ages lower than their chronological age. There are three audio CDs to accompany the texts, a pack of plays based on characters from the story books (ISBN 1856445275 £12 per pack), and a file of resource sheets for photocopying, including a set of activities based on each of the books, a general introduction to the material and teachers' notes (ISBN 1856445670 £25.00).

The topics are varied and interesting. The stories are short and the language is simple with verb patterns being repeated often. Sometimes this is overdone and the repetitive nature of some passages could challenge the enjoyment factor.

To help improve numeracy



Math@aber.cym (numeracy pack)

1856445399 (English) 1856445380 (Welsh)

Peter Moody

Y Ganolfan Astudiaethau Addysg/Centre for Educational Studies,
Aberystwyth

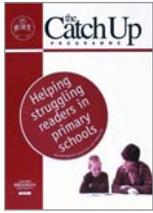
240 pp. **£14.95 hb**

This is a large ring-binder file containing a range of mathematical activities, oral and mental, giving full coverage of Levels 1, 2 and 3 of the National Curriculum, which aims to support children whose numeracy skills are below their chronological age. It is a resource which offers clear guidance to teachers and which can be adapted by teachers to suit their needs.

The packs suggest a whole-class introduction and group activities for all children working at these levels in KS2. There are also specific individual and paired follow-up tasks and games for children in Years 5 and 6 who find maths difficult and who are working at levels 1, 2 and 3.

The judges felt that, although the design is plain, it is a useful resource when adapted to learners' needs and is a worthy addition in an area where there is a shortage of good materials.

Non-book materials



The Catch Up Programme*

Winner

Dee Reid, Diana Bentley, Suzi Clipson-Boyles

Catch Up

(developed by Oxford Brookes University with the support of the Caxton Trust)

£135.00 + £2.84 VAT

The Catch Up Programme is a proven literacy intervention programme designed to help the one in five of 6–11 year-olds who struggle with their reading. The programme has been developed following detailed academic research and extensive practical experience and can be delivered by teachers or teaching assistants. The Catch Up Programme is widely used in schools and has been adapted into Welsh, *Dyfal Donc* (see below).

The programme is a comprehensive and systematic process which centres on short but regular focused individual sessions and optional group sessions. The material is manageable and easily adapted by teachers. Games are used to reinforce skills and the Jury was especially impressed with the CD-ROMs of extension activities in the form of multimedia educational games, and with the planned involvement of parents to support the learner. The price for a CD-ROM single user licence is £39.50 + £ 6.91 VAT.

The programme involves parents by providing them with practical suggestions for home-based activities. A teacher's manual is included in the pack, together with other resources including a graded reference to a range of available reading books, photocopiable pupil progress sheets, photocopiable games and activities. There is also a supportive *Parent Links* book and a video *Parents can make a Difference* (£32.50 + £2.84 VAT), which gives guidance on listening to a child read and on building reading into family activities.

*Available only from the publishers

Dyfal Donc*

Winner



Catch Up

Adapted by Anne Kenyon

(developed by Oxford Brookes University with the support of the Caxton Trust)

£115.00 + £2.84 VAT

Dyfal Donc is the Welsh version of *The Catch Up Programme* described above. Both versions are comprehensive and are widely used in schools. The valuable *Parents Links* book is also available in Welsh and can be downloaded from the Catch Up website.

*Available only from the publishers

BOOKS AND MATERIALS FOR SECONDARY SCHOOL PUPILS

To help improve reading skills in the English language



Famous Welsh People

1902724127

Cen Williams, Bryn Evans

UWIC Press

16pp each **£10 per pack of 5; sb**

A pack of five reading books aimed at pupils in KS3 and KS4 who are experiencing some difficulty with reading. Each book features a well-known Welsh personality – Jonathan Davies, Cerys Matthews, Rhys Ifans, John Hartson and Siân Lloyd. The books are attractive and written in clear and straightforward language with repetition of phrases and vocabulary and attractive illustrations. The series is also available in Welsh.

Livewire Series

Hodder & Stoughton, in association with the Basic Skills Agency

The Livewire Series is designed along guidelines provided by the Basic Skills Agency to ensure accessibility in both layout and content for reluctant readers of all ages. They are subtly colour-coded for the appropriate reading age. They are also fully supported by new Teacher's Resources which provide guidance and follow-up activities. The 'Livewire' books include an extensive range of titles in each of the following mini series:

Livewire Chillers – a series of thrilling stories full of suspense. Available in nine different packs, priced from £18.75.

Livewire Classics – abridged versions of short stories adapted from original classic texts which retain most of the original material. Available in three different packs, priced from £15.00.

Livewire Focus on Literacy – this series has been written specifically for pupils at KS3 and above who are operating at or below National Curriculum Level 4, particularly those on the National Literacy Strategy 'Catch Up' Programme. Available as a pack, which includes five titles from across the Livewire range and a Teacher's Resource Book, £45.00. (Teacher's Resource Book is also available separately, £35.00).

Livewire Graphics – introductions to classic literature for lower attaining pupils at KS3 and KS4. The graphic novels format uses abridged text from the original stories intertwined with a storyboard layout and illustrations. Pupils' Books £4.99 each, Teacher's Resources, £27.99 each.

Livewire Investigates – a series of thrilling accounts of dream careers, sports and extreme sports, disasters, catastrophes, crimes, strange mysteries and the natural world. Available in eleven different packs, priced from £18.75.

Livewire Myths and Legends – classic tales which bring to life exciting characters and strange creatures in a series of stories and plays. Available in two different packs, priced at £26.25 and £30.00.

Livewire Plays – exciting plays about the issues, dramas and challenges of being young. Available in five different packs, priced from £30.00.

Livewire Poetry – an introduction to poetry for reluctant readers. Available in a pack, priced £15.00.

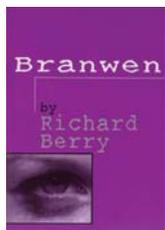
Livewire Real Lives – short biographies which feature personalities from sport, film and music, politics and history. Available in twelve different packs, priced from £18.75.

Livewire Sci-Fi – stories about a world of aliens, time travel and space exploration. Available in two different packs, priced at £11.25 and £18.75.

Livewire Shakespeare – abridged versions of a selection of Shakespeare plays. These titles combine attractive cartoon graphics with plot summaries. Pupils' Books, £4.99 each, Teacher's Resource Book, £28.99 each.

Livewire Youth Fiction – short stories which explore the emotions and experiences of young people, and look at some of the issues they face. Available in six different packs, priced from £18.75.

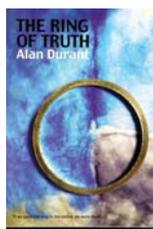
Full details of the various Livewire Series publications are available in the Basic Skills Agency Publications catalogue or at www.livewirebooks.co.uk or telephone 0207 8736272.



Branwen 1902724372 Richard Berry
Chuck It 1902724399 Glenys Evans
First Love 1902724453 Kevin Lewis
The Pack 1902724410 Glenys Evans
The Party in the Park 1902724437 Kevin Lewis
The Tower by the Sea 1902724488 Richard Berry
 UWIC Press
 16pp each **£17.00 each** (pack of 6 copies and teachers' notes).

This is a series of six plays for KS3 pupils set in a Welsh context by authors who have extensive experience of young people's theatre. Less able readers should be able to read the text without difficulty since the language, although simple, is well written, and flowing and is appropriate for the target group. The plays focus on real contemporary topics of interest to teenagers and will provide good starting points for stimulating class discussion. The production values and overall appearance of the books are excellent and they are illustrated by photographs or drawings. The plays are also available in Welsh.

NOVELS FROM BARRINGTON STOKE



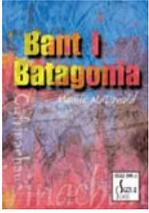
A Kind of Magic 1842990101 Catherine MacPhail
Playing Against the Odds 1902260694 Bernard Ashley
The Ring of Truth 1842990330 Alan Durant
Wings 184299011X James Lovegrove
 Barrington Stoke Ltd
£4.99 each sb

Four books from a publisher who specialises in under-performing and reluctant readers. Three of the titles are targeted at readers aged 12–13 with a reading age of 8, and *Playing Against the Odds* for readers aged 13–14 with a reading age of 8. The language structure is clear and direct and avoids long, complicated sentences; the font is easy to read and the vocabulary is challenging yet familiar. There are frequent page breaks, short chapters and well-spaced text, and the clearly defined dialogue encourages a smooth and easy read. The books are printed on high quality cream or off-white paper, which has been shown to be more restful on the eye.

These books have a good mix of contemporary and traditional stories which are subtle enough to capture interest. Some are sufficiently ambiguous to stimulate group discussion. *Wings* and *Playing Against the Odds* have attractive illustrations. There are twenty-four other titles in this series.

To help improve reading skills in the Welsh language

CYFRES DWY-eS



1. **Cyfrinachau** 1856445291
 2. **Penderfyniadau** 1856445305
 3. **Amgylchiadau** 1856445313
- 16pp each **£6.99 per pack** or **£1.50 each sb**

Sgets a Sgwrs 1 – CD-ROM

1856447537

£12.99

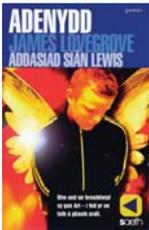
Y Ganolfan Astudiaethau Addysg/Centre for Educational Studies,
Aberystwyth

This material is suitable for KS3 to develop pupils' oracy. There are five sketches, each dealing with a particular theme. In each sketch there are four or five characters in an interesting situation. The sketches are expected to promote debate, and ideas for discussion topics have also been provided.

It is expected that teachers will play an active role when using the plays with young people, and this has been taken into account by the authors. The topics are suitable and appropriate, although some pages contain too many words. The CD-ROM which supplements the text is useful.

CYFRES SAETH

Winner



- Adenydd** 1843231581 James Lovegrove, adapt. Siân Lewis
Bom yn fy Mhen 1843230402 Vivian French, adapt. Elin Meek
Grym y Garreg 184323159X Catherine MacPhail, adapt. Elin Meek
Lleidr Cariad 1843230429 Bernard Ashley, adapt. Gruff Roberts
Marcio Marc 1843230399 Pete Johnson, adapt. Siân Lewis
Mega Miliwn 1843230410 Yvonne Coppard, adapt. Emily Huws
Modrwy Pwy? 1843232324 Alan Durant, adapt. Mari George
- Gwasg Gomer/Gomer Press
£3.99 each sb

These books have modern themes with strong storylines. They have been carefully designed to meet the needs of young people who enjoy challenging material, presented in simple language. The contemporary subject matter will appeal to disaffected readers and will raise important issues which are likely to stimulate discussion. The language structure is clear and direct and avoids long, complicated sentences; the font is easy to read and the vocabulary is challenging yet familiar. There are frequent page breaks, short chapters and well-spaced text, and the clearly defined dialogue encourages a smooth and easy read. The books are printed on high quality cream or off-white paper, which has been shown to be more restful on the eye.

The series has already been well received in schools in Wales by teachers and pupils. *Marcio Marc* has proven to be a particular favourite amongst boys who are reluctant readers. The series was originally published in English and care has been taken to ensure that, during translation, the controlled language levels have been retained. The books are targeted at readers aged 12–13 with a reading age of 8 – apart from *Lleidr Cariad*, *Bom yn fy Mhen* and *Marcio Marc* which are targeted at readers aged 13–14 with a reading age of 8. There is one other title in the Welsh-language series, *O Ddrwg i Waeth*, an adaptation by Catrin Evans of *Stalker* by Anthony Masters.



Cymry Enwog

1902724119

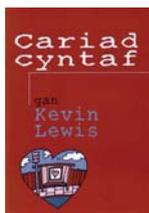
Cen Williams, Bryn Evans

UWIC Press

16pp each **£10 per set of 5; sb**

This is the Welsh version of the series described on page 7. It was specially commended by the Awards Jury. This series is based on people who are currently well-known and in the news, which may mean that individual titles may lose their appeal over time. However, interest in the individuals featured, coupled with attractive design, mean that this series will appeal to learners who have basic skills needs. The language is appropriate, with useful repetition of phrases and vocabulary.

DRAMÂU O GYMRU AR GYFER POBL IFANC



Branwen 1902724380 Richard Berry

Cariad Cyntaf 1902724461 Kevin Lewis

Yr Haid 1902724429 Glenys Evans

Y Parti yn y Parc 1902724445 Kevin Lewis

Tafla Hi! 1902724402 Glenys Evans

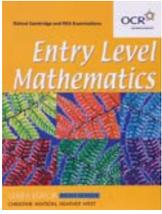
Tŵr Glan y Môr 1902724496 Richard Berry

UWIC Press

16pp each **£17.00 each** (pack of 6 copies and teachers' notes).

These plays are the Welsh editions of the English plays described on page 9. They target basic skills pupils extremely well, and learners will be able to read the text without difficulty. Real and up-to-date topics provide ample scope for classroom discussion. The language is carefully controlled and appropriate, and the design of the books is commendable.

To help improve numeracy



Entry Level Mathematics

0340801638

Christine Watson, Heather West

Hodder & Stoughton

222pp **£14.99** sb

Entry Level Mathematics is organised into self-contained units ideal for motivating students and increasing confidence. Each unit is shown in short bursts and returned to throughout the book, which helps keep students interested in their work. The book's entertaining style is also a successful way of maintaining students' attention. It has parallel calculator and non-calculator exercises. There are focused topics for each unit with interactive questions to engage the students and added attention to the language level to ensure the text is accessible. It is a flexible resource that can be used to support a GCSE Foundation class, an Entry Level Mathematics class or used on an individual basis. *Entry Level Mathematics* will guide the student and teacher through the specification in a systematic and concise fashion. The straightforward text is designed to appeal to pupils in Years 10 and 11 who are below the standard of Foundation GCSE Mathematics.

The Jury recognised the value of the careful targeting of a specific age and ability group. The Jury considered this to be a useful publication which is colourful and has plenty of eye-catching detail. The games and charts are attractive without too much material per page. The material is organised into self-contained units. Some use is made of colour, although the format could be made more attractive in places. An accompanying Teacher's Resource is available online at additional cost (ISBN 0340846429 E-book £35.00 plus VAT). Further information can be found at www.entrylevelmaths.co.uk. Commended by the Jury.

Winner of the Overall Excellence Award



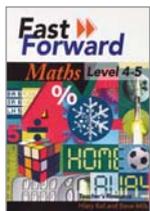
Fast Forward Maths Level 3–4 Pupil's Book

0340782005

Fast Forward Maths Level 4–5 Pupil's Book

0340803797

64pp each **£7.99 each sb**



Fast Forward Maths Level 3–4 Teacher's Resource

0340782013

Fast Forward Maths Level 4–5 Teacher's Resource

0340803800

64pp each **£21.99 each sb**

Hilary Koll, Steve Mills

Hodder & Stoughton

There are two versions of *Fast Forward Maths*, one to boost pupils from Level 3 to 4 and another to boost pupils from Level 4 to 5.

The use of *Fast Forward Maths* will form part of a recommended interactive teaching approach recommended by the National Numeracy Strategy. Each of the twelve units includes a variety of strands: Work-up Workout, Key Words, Skills Builder, Sort It, Talk Time, Crack 'Em, Game On and Let's Investigate. Together, these provide an incremental development of the skills required in mathematics to raise pupils from Level 4 to Level 5.

The Jury were enthusiastic about their content and about the quality of presentation, including the use of colour throughout. They are full of a wide range of interactive activities and are engagingly presented and fun to use. These are not books for pupils to use without the guidance and support of teachers, but they do encourage pupils to progress through the activities because of their attractive layout and appropriate language. One of their merits is that they share the learning objectives of each activity with pupils. The approach uses humour to communicate and to introduce skills – a welcome inclusion in a mathematics book. They are friendly in approach and the learning contexts are highly relevant.

There are good accompanying Teacher's Resource books which are clear and succinct and which offer maths games and other activities. These will be extremely useful publications for schools and for many adult learners, and the Jury felt sure that these were publications which will help improve learners' mathematics.

Non-book materials



The Seventh Seal: Literacy Resource Pack

1843231484

Pont Books/Gomer Press

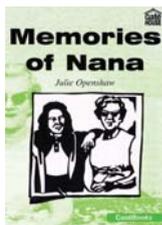
£6.95

This is a pack comprising two audio cassettes and a stand-alone, simply produced resource booklet for teachers (including photocopiable worksheets) to use in conjunction with Julie Rainsbury's story, *The Seventh Seal*. (This is one of a series of 4 packs based around novels written in English with a Welsh background and aimed at nine to thirteen year-olds.) The purpose of the cassettes is to encourage pupils to return to the text of the novel. The Jury thought that the ideas in the booklet were excellent and that it was a good example of the value of producing complementary audio tapes.

BOOKS AND MATERIALS FOR ADULTS (INCLUDING YOUNG ADULTS)

To help to improve reading skills in the English language

COOL BOOKS*



Born Twice

1842310070 Stephen Harber

I.D. Parade

1842310054 K.C.

Memories of Nana

1842310003 Julie Openshaw

The Gatehouse Publishing Charity

£4.50 each sb

Driven Ambition

184231002X Paul Lloyd

It All Started as a Joke

1842310046 John Tuff

That Smile

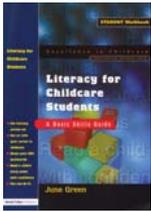
1842310038 Pauline Bromley

Gatehouse specialises in publishing books for adults with reading and writing difficulties. Its books are written by students of basic skills and ESOL. The series is the fruit of a pioneering project to create new readers, specially written by and for offenders. The Project was developed in conjunction with the prison arts organisation, 'Writers in Prison Network'.

The Cool Books series comprise short, original and powerful readers which have been developed by and for prisoners with basic skills needs. They are relevant for basic learners in correctional facilities. There are eight books in the series.

Although originally aimed at basic skills learners in offenders' institutions, the Jury thought that these books were ideal for many adult learners and for some secondary school pupils, especially disaffected young people. Despite being published in black and white, they are attractive with a contemporary feel which will appeal to basic skills learners. The content is not condescending, and the language is well controlled, although some learners (and teachers) may be offended by the frankness of the language used in some of the books.

*Available only from the publishers

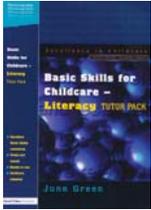


Literacy for Childcare Students – A Basic Skills Guide

Winner

1843120224

92pp **£8.00** sb



Basic Skills for Childcare: Literacy Tutor Pack

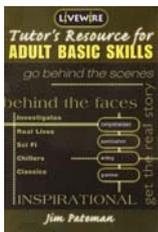
1843120216

276pp **£35.00** sb

June Green

David Fulton Publishers

This is the first in what the Jury hoped might become a series of publications for young people and adults who are either training for or working in specific occupations. It is a mini-series comprising a substantial tutor book and accompanying student guide covering the literacy needed by childcare students at further education level. The content is linked to the adult literacy curriculum. The Jury felt that the publication marks a step forward in developing the teaching of basic skills in work-related contexts. There are separate packs for numeracy.



Livewire Tutor's Resource for Adult Basic Skills

0340804289

Jim Pateman

Hodder & Stoughton in association with the Basic Skills Agency

104pp **£35.00** sb

This book is designed to help tutors working with learners at Entry Level, and at Levels 1 and 2. It contains reading and writing activities based around fifty Livewire titles which have been specifically chosen to be interest-level appropriate for adults who are struggling readers. For more details of Livewires, see pp. 7-8.

Non-book materials



Gair Am Air

0862436494

Heini Gruffudd

Y Lolfa

£9.95

This is a Welsh word game for 2, 3 or 4 players comprising 192 playing cards with instructions. It was not designed with basic skills learners in mind, but it is a useful means of enabling learners to reinforce literacy skills and to acquire additional vocabulary in an enjoyable way.



News Worksheets*

ISSN 1362 8267

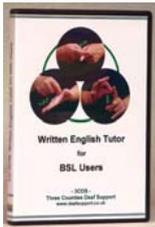
Hugh and Margaret Brown

Brown & Brown Publishing

Published three times a calendar year on subscription **£9.25**

These are sets of topical worksheets based on current news stories which have proved very popular with adult students. They are modern and humorous, although the Jury expressed reservations about the presentation and illustrations which are fairly simple. The sets can be photocopied within a centre, college or school, and back packs are available. These worksheets constitute an inexpensive source of useful practice material.

*Available only from the publishers.



Written English Tutor for BSL Users

Three Counties Deaf Support

£10.00

This is a CD-ROM designed to run on PC Computers with Windows 98, ME, 2000, NT4 or XP operating systems. It aims to help Deaf British Sign Language (BSL) users improve their writing skills. The teaching is entirely in BSL. More than fifty practical lessons and exercises highlight the differences and similarities between English grammar and the signing principles of BSL. Given the shortage of materials for British Sign Language users, this is an important resource. Some of the photography is a little dark and the regional dialects were problematic at times (for hearing judges) but clear lip movements overcame this. The Jury were aware of BSL users who had found this a stimulating and interesting resource.

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Barrington Stoke Publishers Ltd

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The Catch Up Programme

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The Gatehouse Publishing Charity

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Hodder and Stoughton Educational

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827720 or orders@bookpoint.co.uk

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e-mail enquiries@deafsupport.co.uk

UWIC Press

(University of Wales Institute, Cardiff)
Cyncoed Rd., Cardiff CF2 6XD
Tel 02920 416515
Website: www.uwic.ac.uk

Franklin Watts

96 Leonard St., London EC2A 4XD
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e-mail fw@wattspub.co.uk

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