

# SPELD SA e-newsletter

9th Edition August 2016

## Term 3 Newsletter

The aim of this publication is to keep our members up-to-date with what is happening at SPELD SA. It includes a mix of information, commentary and publicity for our three member groups: parents, schools and tutors.

## What's New.....?

### Welcome Jan!

We are very excited to welcome our new staff member, Jan Woods, the new office manager. She started in June and has been learning about all that we do at SPELD SA. Make sure you say hello when you come into the office or ring up. She is a great addition to our team and brings great expertise to our office.



### Farewell Yvonne!

We are also very sad to say goodbye to Yvonne Hartwig, who retired at the beginning of July. Yvonne has been such an experienced, loyal and hard-working staff member for 28 years at SPELD SA. She has always given a wealth of information and support to all those who have rung SPELD SA for help. We will miss her warmth and care, her expertise and knowledge, her help and understanding and her sunny smile that she gave to all who walked through the door.



All the best for the future, Yvonne. We will miss you.

## Phonics books

### 187 free online phonic books

For those collecting the free SPELD SA Phonic Books, there are now 187 titles available to download and/or use. <http://www.speld-sa.org.au/services/phonic-books.html>

The latest 5 titles are:

#### Set 3

What am I?

#### Set 8

Sounds in the Attic; Smokey the Kitten

#### Set 9

Smokey the in Kitten

#### Set 11

Dung Beetles

## Worksheets and Fluency Charts

SPELD SA is currently working on a worksheet and fluency chart for each free SPELD SA Phonic Book published. We are updating the worksheets that were already on the website as well, with a guided handwriting component for students to practise letter formation. This supports their writing within the worksheet as they practise the focus sounds for each level. Sets 1 - 6 are now updated with 93 titles available in those sets.

We enjoy all the feedback we receive about the books as it helps us improve our service. Recently we have had requests for the Phonic Books for a school in Indonesia. The teachers, who are themselves learning English, are teaching English to students and in need of resources in their growing school. The SPELD SA Phonics Books were provided to them on a USB with all the updated worksheets and Oral Language cards as they were unable to download them from the Internet.

If you are travelling to regions that cannot download the books or in need of the Phonic books on file we can, for the cost of \$20, load the resources on a 16GB USB Stick for you. Alternatively some sets are already printed and available for sale in our shop. Please ring the office on **8431 1655** or email [info@speld-sa.org.au](mailto:info@speld-sa.org.au)

## Helping Parents

### Tutors available

SPELD SA provides a tutor service of registered teachers. If your child is struggling with literacy or numeracy, has been diagnosed with a learning difficulty or just needs a little bit of extra help, ring SPELD SA and talk with us about your options.

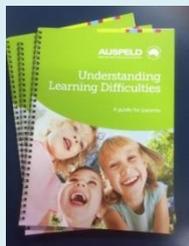
For more information about Face-to-face tutoring please follow the link to our website, where you can download an application form. As of July 1<sup>st</sup> 2016 the tutor fee is \$60 for a 1 hour session.

<http://www.speld-sa.org.au/services/face-to-face-tutoring.html>

### Understanding Learning Difficulties: a guide for Parents

This handbook aims to help parents who have a child with learning difficulties, or who suspect their child is struggling.

Produced by AUSPELD the resource aims to help parents understand the characteristics of different learning difficulties, including dyslexia, how you can help your child and what steps to take to help them succeed and stay positive about their learning.



Buy your copy from SPELD SA - \$20 members, \$25 non-members

**Exciting news:** In the next few weeks DSF WA will release to the public, a newly created free website with information and videos, based on information in the guide. We will email those on our database and publish the details of the website as soon as it is ready to go live.

## Free parents workshops

Please ring to book a place to all the free sessions - **8431 1655**

In Term 3 we are offering:-

- **Tuesday 2nd August - Information evening for parents: Dyslexia- what it is and how to help, 7.00 - 9.00 pm, SPELD SA**
- **Monday 8th August - What SPELD SA does and practical things you can do to help people with specific learning difficulties. 10.00am – 12.00 pm at SPELD SA.**
- **Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> August - Teaching a child (4- 6 years old) to read and write. 10.00-11.30am at SPELD SA.**

These workshops are offered every term. Check Term 4 dates and times if these do not suit you.

<http://www.speld-sa.org.au/workshops/term-4-2016.html>

### Educational links

Both parents and teachers may find our Educational Links page useful

<http://www.speld-sa.org.au/links/educational-links.html>

### Teaching Children to Read and Write.

Sue Lloyd, author of the Jolly Phonics Program, has recently released a website to take away some of the mystique about how to teach children to read and write. The website presents an overview, then step by step videos and instructions about synthetic phonics teaching. Resources are available to download off the website, specific to each instructional step.

You may wish to share the link with all of your friends and colleagues <http://tcrw.co.uk/>

### Consultations at SPELD SA

SPELD SA offers consultations for parents of students with learning difficulties, to advise how to help their child. This includes:

- Looking at resources available and how to use them when helping your child with literacy
- Practical tips and strategies
- Advice on some free assistive technologies and everyday programs, how and when to use them.

Cost: \$80 Non-members; \$65 Members.

Ring 8431 1655 to book.

## Parent Survey

**Tanya Forbes – dyslexia advocate and education campaigner is currently asking parents to share their child's experience having dyslexia at school.**

The National survey for parents on the education of their children with dyslexia will gather collective data on parents experiences in obtaining support for their children with dyslexia and related learning differences from schools. This data will be collated into both national and state reports to share with policymakers and hopefully influence change.

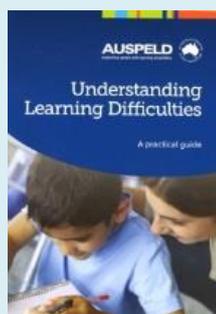
Most of the questions in the survey are tick boxes and there is an opportunity to provide comments at the end of the survey. Your responses will be anonymous. As dyslexia can have such a broad profile, and experiences can be different for each child/ individual, parents are encouraged to complete the survey for each child attending school. The survey can be accessed at

<https://surveyplanet.com/57944d4fe4beeea61bcf0e33>

## Understanding Learning Difficulties: SPELD SA Conference June 2016 Review

**SPELD SA Conference 2016 was held on June 23<sup>rd</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup>, with Mandy Nayton as speaker.** Mandy is the Executive Officer of DSF Literacy and Clinical Services and the President of AUSPELD.

The free Parent session, held on the Thursday evening was well attended, despite the full force of Winter on the door step! Parents had an opportunity to listen to Mandy about how learning difficulties present in individuals and how to help. They were able to ask questions at the end of the talk, of which many took advantage.



*"I found the session very informative and Mandy's explanation of the Specific Learning Difficulties very clear."*

*"It was great to be able to ask questions, but now I have 100 more!"*

The teacher session, outlining the Understanding Learning Difficulties Guide, was also helpful for those attending. From the feedback we've received, teachers who attended will be able to apply some strategies straight away with their students.

It is always our hope that each time people attend information sessions about learning difficulties that they then inform others or put others in touch with us. So spread the word!

### Need a refresher?

If you or teachers at your school feel like you need a refresher with Jolly Phonics, available phonic resources, phonic knowledge or strategies about how to cope in the classroom with students with learning difficulties, SPELD SA can structure a PD session to suit your school. Please ring the office and speak with us about what your needs are and start the ball rolling. Or join one of our PD sessions in Term 3 or 4.

## Phonics Readers – resources in review

We have many phone calls from teachers and parents, looking for resources for their students who need targeted texts for their ability. The following is just a taste of the phonic resources that are either in our library or shop. These books can be used in a class situation or for intervention programs. Most come with teacher manuals and/or supporting worksheets. Here is a taste....

### Rip Rap Series by Judy Keen

The Rip Rap series are written for students who have lower than average reading levels. Series A is designed for students in years 4-9 and Series B is designed for upper primary and secondary students. With tightly controlled vocabulary and progressive introduction of spelling patterns, these books are ideal for those who want to be reading similar content to their peers but are unable to access the text. The books are designed to be read in sequence, so students can build on their word

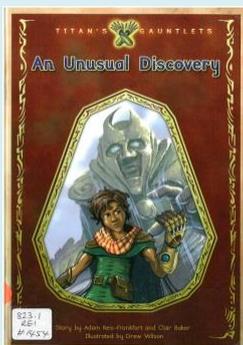


The Bell Tower  
by Judy Keen.  
Book 10 in Series B

knowledge and practice word families. The themes of the books are perfect for older readers and could promote class discussion about challenging issues. Set out as a novel with no illustrations. 12 books in each series.

## Titan's Gauntlets by Phonic Books Ltd.

Titan's Gauntlets is a set of ten imaginative stories with fantastic illustrations, which progressively introduce further alternative vowel and consonant spellings and common Latin suffixes. The books are set out in chapters, but look and feel like a reader rather than a novel. Great for small group work with explicit teaching of vocabulary, skills or spelling conventions. The illustrations make these readers 'feel like' Deltora Quest. Ideal for years 4-7 or those learning about alternative spelling conventions. 10 books in the series. Worksheets available.



## Little Learners Love Literacy Published by ACER.

These readers are best suited to junior primary students and have carefully sequenced introduction of sounds over 7 stages. As with the Dandelion series, these books introduce all the single alphabetic sounds first in stages 1-4, with digraphs qu, ck, sh, ch, th, ng introduced in stages 5-6 and long vowel digraphs and trigraphs in stage 7. The Books also have 'heart words' (high frequency sight words) and comprehension questions in the back of the reader.



## Initialit decodable reader series Published by MultiLit

The Initialit decodable Reader series has been carefully developed by MultiLit to provide phonic support for beginner readers, working alongside the sequenced introduction of letter sounds and sight words taught in the first year of schooling. The

Initialit Readers will encourage young children to use the correct reading strategies to access print right from the start. Guessing words from pictures and context will be a thing of the past.

The set of 60 Initialit Readers contains nine levels, aligned to the instruction in the Initialit Program. As children's knowledge of the alphabetic code develops, the Initialit Readers become more complex.

The set of sixty readers contains nine levels, with between five to ten titles in each level. Ideal for use in Foundation classrooms, these little books have risen admirably to the challenge of creating entertaining reading experiences for young children, while using a necessarily restricted vocabulary. Children who love surprises, adventure, humour, and mischievous animals will enjoy the beautifully illustrated stories.

Have fun with Gus on the Bus, enjoy A Little Snack, and explore The Zoo while providing much needed reading practice for children just beginning to discover the joy of reading! Books will be available in full sets or individually and can be purchased by schools, tutors or parents from Term 4, 2016.

To learn more about the readers or to place an order go to [http://www.multilit.com/programs/initilit-readers/?inf\\_contact\\_key=2e3f3a038aa711400909f1837a021f3f0e42bd5df5954346b0f8e0848b8e0aff](http://www.multilit.com/programs/initilit-readers/?inf_contact_key=2e3f3a038aa711400909f1837a021f3f0e42bd5df5954346b0f8e0848b8e0aff)

## Workshops Term 3

To book into the following workshops download our registration form <http://www.speld-sa.org.au/images/workshops/regform.doc>. Please check the website for more information [click here](#). Unless otherwise stated, all sessions will be held at SPELD SA, 298 Portrush Road, Kensington.

## August

**Information evening for parents: Dyslexia- What it is and how to help: Ref 020816**

**Tues 2<sup>nd</sup> August, 7.00 - 9.00 pm, SPELD SA**

**Presenter: Sandy Russo, Director, SPELD SA.** This session looks at the problems encountered by students with dyslexia and the ways in which they can be assisted. For parents of school-aged children.  
**No charge – Please phone to book a place.**

**Getting started as a SPELD SA Tutor - the problems students have and how to help: Ref 030816**

**Wed 3<sup>rd</sup> August, 7.00 - 9.00 pm, SPELD SA**

**Presenter: Frances Scobie, JP teacher, Tutor Coordinator and Accredited Jolly Phonics Trainer**  
For beginning tutors joining the SPELD SA register  
**Tutor \$15**

**What SPELD SA does and practical things you can do to help people with specific learning difficulties: Ref 080816.**

**Mon 8<sup>th</sup> August, 10.00am – 12.00pm, SPELD SA**

**Presenter: Sandy Russo, Director, SPELD SA.** Come and find out about what SPELD SA does, how to navigate around our website, learn about the free resources we create and get some practical tips and strategies you can use with any students that have specific learning difficulties. For new tutors, teachers, parents, SSOs and other interested people. **No Charge – Please phone to book a place.**

**Inclusive reading in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century: Ref 100816**

**Wed 10<sup>th</sup> August, 7.00 - 9.00pm, SPELD SA**

**Presenter: Sandy Russo, Director, SPELD SA**  
Discover how easy it is to create an inclusive reading environment using e-books, e-reading, ITC and multimodal texts, as well as the pros and cons of some of the most popular e-reading devices. You'll learn where to find reading materials for these devices and how you or your students can create your own content. The talk includes a demonstration of free and commercial assistive technologies. For class and subject teachers, Spec. Ed teachers and SSOs years R-12.

**Session 3: Jolly Grammar -Spelling Focus (2½ hours) Ref 130816am**

**Sat 13<sup>th</sup> August, 9.30am – noon (Registration 9.00am) Location: SPELD SA**

**Presenters: Jan Polkinghorne and Frances Scobie, both JP teachers and Accredited Jolly Phonics Trainers. Prerequisite: Jolly Phonics – Session 1 & 2 or an in depth knowledge of synthetic phonics.** Covers grammar content in the Jolly Grammar Handbooks 1-5. As the teaching of spelling moves towards systematic teaching of conventions and generalisations enabling students to apply knowledge to an ever increasing number of words, it should be an exercise in logic and problem solving where students take risks and have a go. This is a practical workshop focussing on: What to teach, how to teach it, programming, assessment, grouping, how to add variety and interaction and keep students engaged

and on task. For teachers, SSO's, paraprofessionals, tutors, student teachers, parents years 1-7. **Tutor/ft student \$35; Member \$75; Non-member \$95**

**Session 4: Jolly Grammar - Grammar Focus (2½ hours): Ref 130816pm**

**Sat 13<sup>th</sup> August, 1 – 3.30pm (Registration 12.30pm) Location: SPELD SA**

**Presenters: Jan Polkinghorne and Frances Scobie, both JP teachers and Accredited Jolly Phonics Trainers. Prerequisite: Jolly Phonics – Session 1 & 2, Jolly Grammar - Spelling Focus.** Covers grammar content in the Jolly Grammar Handbooks 1-5. Good grammar teaching should be systematic and sequential. This workshop explores ways to put excitement and activity into the more complex aspects of Jolly Grammar. Take away practical activities you can apply in your classroom tomorrow. For teachers, SSO's, paraprofessionals, tutors, student teachers, parents years 1-7. **Tutor/ft student \$35; Member \$75; Non-member \$95**

**Differentiating the Curriculum for Upper Primary and Secondary students: Reading tasks: Ref 150816**

**Mon 15<sup>th</sup> August, 7-9.00pm, SPELD SA**

**Presenter: Sandy Russo, Director, SPELD SA**  
Looks at the types of difficulties that students with specific learning difficulties experience in the classroom and explores a range of ways to differentiate reading tasks during the planning stage, in everyday lessons and for homework tasks. We will also explore assistive technologies that are available. For teachers, special education teachers, SSOs, tutors, student teachers and parents. **Tutor/ft student \$25; Member \$70; Non-member \$90**

**Planning strategies for students with memory difficulties: Ref 220816**

**Mon 22<sup>nd</sup> August, 7.00 - 9.00pm, SPELD SA**

**Presenter: Sandy Russo, Director, SPELD SA**  
Students with specific learning difficulties have a hard time remembering their ideas when writing. We will explore ways of developing independent writers using software programs such as PowerPoint and Audacity and techniques including 6 box structures and mind mapping. We will also look at multisensory strategies to help people to hear sounds in words, and demonstrate the uses of assistive technologies. For teachers, special education teachers, SSOs, tutors, student teachers and parents. **Tutor/ft student \$25; Member \$70; Non-member \$90**

**Teaching a child (4- 6 years old) to read and write:**

**Parent Session: Ref 240816**

**Wed 24<sup>th</sup> August, 10 am - 11.30am, SPELD SA**

**Presenter: Frances Scobie, JP teacher and Accredited Jolly Phonics Trainer.** This session will show parents how they can help their children develop the foundation skills for reading and writing and demonstrate a range of activities that can be incorporated into a 5 minute-a- day holiday program/daily routine. For parents of 4, 5 and 6 year olds. **No charge – Please phone to book a place.**

**Software Sampler Session: Ref 260816**

**Fri 26<sup>th</sup> August, 1.30 - 3.30pm, SPELD SA**

**Presenter: Sandy Russo, Director, SPELD SA.** Come and look at some of the best assistive and remedial software for students (all ages) who have difficulties in literacy and numeracy, such as: *Dragon Naturally Speaking, TextHELP, Textease, Wordshark, Numbershark, Fitzroy Readers*, selected free programs. For teachers, SSOs, tutors, student teachers, parents. **Tutor/ft student \$25; Member \$70; Non-member \$90**

**Explicit teaching (direct instruction) techniques for reading and spelling in whole class or small group situations: Ref 300816**

**Tues 30<sup>th</sup> August, 10.00 am - noon, SPELD SA**

**Presenter: Frances Scobie, JP teacher, Tutor Coordinator and Accredited Jolly Phonics Trainer**  
Some students in Years 3 to 7 need a refresher course in how to use phonics to read and spell. Take part in a group lesson that will demonstrate a sequence of teaching strategies and techniques designed to develop automatic decoding and spelling skills. For class teachers, spec. ed. teachers & SSOs years 3-7. **Tutor/ft student \$25; Member \$70; Non-member \$90**

**SOS – Spelling for Older Students: Ref 310816**

**Wed 31<sup>st</sup> August, 7-00pm – 9.00pm, SPELD SA.**

**Presenter: Jan Polkinghorne, JP teacher; and Accredited Jolly Phonics Trainer.**  
Come and have a look at SPELD SA's own SOS - a synthetic phonic program designed to teach older students to spell by sound. The program has 35 lessons with support material created in Easiteach Next Generation - accessible by the free reader. The SOS program is available for a \$5 donation. For primary, secondary, tertiary teachers, special education teachers, SSOs, tutors, student teachers and parents with older students with reading and

spelling difficulties. **Tutor/ft student \$25; Member \$70; Non-member \$90**

## September

**Making the most of your PowerPoint: Ref 060916**

**Tues 6<sup>th</sup> September, 7.00 - 9.00pm, SPELD SA**

**Presenter: Sandy Russo, Director, SPELD SA**  
This workshop will look at a range of features built into PowerPoint that help students with specific learning difficulties. Topics include how to use PowerPoint when developing independent writers, how to use PowerPoint when differentiating the curriculum for students who struggle with oral presentations, how to make your PowerPoints reader-friendly, and how to insert invisible scaffolding that students can opt-in to. For teachers, paraprofessionals, SSOs, tutors, ft students. **Tutor/ft student \$25; Member \$70; Non-member \$90**

**Using Jolly Phonics for Tutors and SSOs – practical advice and case studies: Ref 070916**

**Wed 7<sup>th</sup> September, 10.00 – 11.30 am, SPELD SA.**

**Presenter: Frances Scobie, JP teacher, Tutor Coordinator and Accredited Jolly Phonics Trainer (Pre-requisite courses: Jolly Phonics Sessions 1&2)**  
This session shows how Jolly Phonics can be used effectively in a one-to-one situation. Jolly Phonics is designed for the classroom but with minor adaptations, it can be used very successfully in a one-to-one situation. Includes case studies, example lessons and ideas for resources. Please bring your copy of The Phonics Handbook. For tutors, Spec Ed teachers and SSOs. **Tutor/ft student \$25; Member \$70; Non-member \$90**

**Teaching a child (4- 6 years old) to read and write:**

**Teacher/Tutor/SSO Session: Ref 210916**

**Wed 21<sup>st</sup> September, 10.00 – 11.30 am, SPELD SA.**

**Presenter: Frances Scobie, JP teacher, Tutor Coordinator and Accredited Jolly Phonics Trainer**  
This session will show Teachers, Tutors, and SSOs how they can help children develop the foundation skills for reading and writing and demonstrate a range of activities that can be incorporated into a 5-minute-a-day daily routine. For teachers, tutors and SSOs of 4, 5, and 6 year olds. **Teacher/Tutor/SSO \$20**

**Spelling – An X-ray View of Words: Ref 220916**

**Thurs 22<sup>nd</sup> June, 7-00pm – 9.30pm, SPELD SA.**

**Presenter: Jan Polkinghorne, JP teacher; and Accredited Jolly Phonics Trainer.**

**Prerequisite- an understanding of the concepts of the alphabetic code and synthetic phonics as used in programs like Thrass, Jolly Phonics etc.**

Is your spelling teaching limited by the list mentality instilled in you as a student? Teaching of spelling is moving towards systematic teaching of conventions and generalisations enabling students to apply knowledge to an ever-increasing number of words. It should be an enquiring, thinking activity: an exercise in logic and problem solving where students take risks and have a go. Learning spellers should be active participants who are given opportunities to talk about what is happening in a word and why. For Teachers, SSOs, Parents Year 1- 8. **Tutor/ft student \$35; Member \$75; Non-member \$95**

## New to the shop

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### Literacy Resources

#### **Titan's Gauntlets Series**

**Workbook.** Published by Phonic Books Ltd, 2016.

A spiral-bound pack of photocopiable reading, writing, spelling and comprehension activities for each of the Titan's Gauntlet stories (187 pages) –**Workbook - \$90**



**Rip Rap Novels. By Judy Keen.** Cumquatmay Publishing, 2013

**Series A - 12 books – \$150.** For students in years 4-9 with lower than average reading skills

**Series B - 12 books - \$150.** For students in upper primary and secondary with lower than average reading skills.

## New to the Library

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### Literacy Resources

**Letters & Sounds - Grade K.** A Golden Book. Western Publishing Inc, 1995.

**Reading between the lines-2. 3<sup>rd</sup> Ed.** By Merle Morcom, Margaret Brownie. Oxford Uni. Press, 2015.

**Catching on to Comprehension – Book A.** By Lynne Darkin, Pearson Australia.

**Visible Learning for Literacy. Grades K-12.** By Douglas Fisher, Nancy Frey and John Hattie.

**Titan's Gauntlet Workbook.** Published by Phonic Books Ltd, 2016.

**Word Up! Grammar Book 4.** By Julienne Laidlaw. Pearson Publications, 2015.

**Vocabulary Instruction Research to Practice** by James F. Baumann, Edward J. Kameenui, 2012

### Numeracy Resources

**My Money Matters Book.** Aust. Banker Assoc. & Vic Teachers Assoc.

### Assistive Technology Resources

**Blake's Go Guides - PowerPoint.** By John Baker. Pascal Press.

**Blake's Go Guides - Excel - The Basics.** By Tim Tuck, Andrew Clucas and Chris Woldhuis. Pascal Press

## Tutors needed

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**Are you a registered teacher?**

**Do you have an hour or two that you could spare each week?**

SPELD SA needs registered teachers who wish to become tutors. \*Selection criteria apply. Training is given after successful application.

If you are interested in finding out more go to <http://www.speld-sa.org.au/services/become-a-tutor.html>

## Help us get the word out

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SPELD SA has much to offer parents of students who are struggling with literacy, numeracy or have an undiagnosed learning difficulty. They just need to know how to get in contact with us. If you have students and/or parents that could benefit from our services, please refer them to us. It's as simple as giving them our website details, or putting this information in your newsletter.

**SPELD SA: Help with learning difficulties and dyslexia**

Website: [www.speld-sa.org.au](http://www.speld-sa.org.au)

Phone: 08 8431 1655

Is your child struggling with literacy or numeracy? Are they just not 'getting it' and you don't understand why? Your child may have a learning difficulty.

**SPELD SA can help.**



SPELD SA is the Specific Learning Difficulties Association of SA. Look at our website for information about Dyslexia and other learning difficulties, free resources and workshops at [www.speld-sa.org.au](http://www.speld-sa.org.au)

Or join our Facebook page  
<https://www.facebook.com/SPELD.SouthAustralia>

Or ring 8431 1655 to talk to us about what we do and how we can help.

## **SPELD SA Members Special**

Schools and individuals that are current members receive 5% discount when they purchase the following products.

Dandelion Phonic Books - Jolly Phonics Products - SPELD SA Phonic books - Fitzroy Readers

To see available books, and to download an order form, go to the SPELD SA Website under

[Shop/Dandelion Readers](#)

[Shop/Fitzroy Readers and Word Skill Books](#)

[Shop/Jolly Phonic products](#)

[Shop/SPELD SA phonic books](#)

The downloadable order form is at the top of the page

To become a SPELD SA member go to  
<http://www.speld-sa.org.au/about-us/membership.html>

School memberships due now