

SPELD SA e-newsletter

7th Edition January 2016

2016 at SPELD SA

Term 1 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.

Welcome back ...

After a long holiday break we have all hit the ground running. The office has had a fresh lick of paint, we have run some early workshops on online tutoring, and 'What SPELD does' and have enjoyed seeing many teachers, tutors and parents collecting resources for the year ahead.

Are you the next face of SPELD SA?



SPELD SA is searching for students or adults with learning difficulties to help promote SPELD SA. The successful applicants' images will be used on the front signage of the office on Portrush Road, Kensington, in newsletters and other promotional publications for SPELD SA. Applicants will need to be available for a photography session on a Saturday. To apply please email your name, phone number and a digital photo to info@speld-sa.org.au by 17th February 2016. Successful applicants will be notified by phone and will need to sign a release form.

Helping Parents

Last year our focus was on SSOs in schools, providing targeted workshops and resources. In 2016 our focus is helping parents of children with learning difficulties. We will be providing a range of free and affordable workshops aimed at helping parents as they support their children at home and at school. The first two workshops on offer are below. We are currently negotiating other workshops that will be announced later in the year.

Parent Friendly website

One of our aims is to improve the content of our website so that it is more parent-friendly. We would love feedback to make the website easier and more informative for you. Please email any ideas to info@speld-sa.org.au

Free parents workshops

SPELD SA is offering *free* parent workshops and information sessions to help parents understand Dyslexia and learning difficulties and how to help their children. See our website <http://www.speld-sa.org.au/workshops/term-1-2016.html> for more details.

In Term 1 we are offering:-

Tuesday 23rd Feb - Information session for parents.

This session takes a practical approach to helping students develop fundamental literacy skills at home. For parents of R - 7 children.

7.00-9.00pm - ring to book 8431 1655

Tuesday 1st March - Teaching a child (4- 6 years old) to read and write

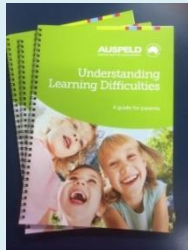
10.00 - 11.30am - ring to book a place 8431 1655

Thursday 23rd June - Free parent session with Mandy Nayton– Understanding Learning Difficulties – A Guide for Parents.

Time, venue, bookings TBA

Mandy Nayton is the President of AUSPELD and the speaker at our SPELD SA Conference in 2015. After such positive feedback from the conference, Mandy will return in 2016 for the SPELD SA Conference and is available for this free parent session.

The **Understanding Learning Difficulties: A Guide for Parents** will be available for purchase on the night for \$35. Gold coin donation to help pay for venue



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 84311655 to book.

Dyslexia Checklists

If you have, or teach, a child who is struggling with literacy or numeracy at school, they may have Dyslexia. Use this link for a free checklist, then access information and resources on our website.

<http://www.speld-sa.org.au/information/checklists.html>

Resources

The SPELD SA website and shop have numerous resources to help students with specific learning difficulties. These include:

SPELD SA Phonic Books and worksheets

<http://www.speld-sa.org.au/services/phonic-books.html>

SPELD SA Oral Language Cards <http://www.speld-sa.org.au/services/speld-sa-let-s-talk-together-language-cards.html>

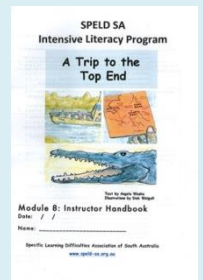
FAQs - Answers to some **Frequently Asked Questions** about Dyslexia and other learning difficulties are on the SPELD SA website. Follow the link <http://www.speld-sa.org.au/faq.html>

If you have any other questions not answered, ring SPELD SA 8431 1655

Intensive Literacy Program Trial

It's not too late!

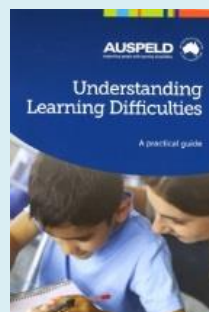
If you would like to register to trial the Intensive literacy program, it's not too late. Please email info@speld-sa.org.au by February 12th, 2016 to become part of the trial in Term 1 2016. Feedback from participants will be incorporated in the review process in Term 2. The feedback from participants in our first trial was very helpful. Thank you for all those who participated. For those already registered in the trial, a new version, that incorporates feedback already received, will be able Week 3, Term 1, 2016.



After reviewing and refining feedback from stage 2 of the trial, a free version of the program will be available for use on the SPELD SA website.

Understanding Learning Difficulties

SPELD SA Conference review



The focus for the SPELD SA Conference 2015 was exploring the new AUSPELD resource - **Understanding Learning Difficulties, A Practical Guide.**

Mandy Nayton, the president of AUSPELD, went through the guide in detail over two days,

accommodating educational psychologists, speech pathologists and special education teachers on the first day, and teachers and parents on the second. Mandy clearly outlined the Response to Intervention Model (RTI), a three wave model that progressively increases the intervention that students receive who struggle academically. Intense intervention for students who struggle is now required as diagnostic criteria for psychologists to diagnose a learning disability or difficulty. The **Understanding Learning Difficulties** guide lists recommended teaching strategies for wave 1, 2 and 3 interventions in areas of literacy and numeracy.

The ***Understanding Learning Difficulties, A guide for parents*** is similar but focuses on information about learning difficulties, what to do if you suspect your child has a learning difficulty and strategies to handle the academic and emotional well-being of the students with learning difficulties.

Mandy Nayton is a leader in her field and is an excellent speaker. Those who attended appreciated her clear instruction, her approachability and ease in answering questions. Here are some comments made by those who attended SPELD SA Conference 2015:

- “...provides all educators with a succinct description of what SLDs are and how best to intervene.”
- “....builds my confidence in being able to identify learning disorders.”
- “.....(I learned) how to read and interpret reports and data to inform my teaching and strategies in helping my students.”
- “Mandy explained how I can use the guide to inform decision-making in helping students.”
- “I loved her explanation of the 3 tier model of literacy intervention. You don’t have to wait until students are really behind to act. There are simple changes I can make in my programming now.”
- “Please do more! We love hearing Mandy in SA!”
- “A fantastic presentation. Challenging content. Will highly recommend.”

SPELD SA is bringing Mandy back in June 2016 for more professional development sessions (see details below) and adding a session specifically targeted at parents on Thursday 23rd June, 2016.

SPELD SA Conference

LOCATION: Village Well. 54 Strathalbyn Rd, Aldgate

SPEAKER: Mandy Nayton - Executive Officer of DSF Literacy and Clinical Services and the President of AUSPELD.

Details for the two separate events are listed below.

FRIDAY 24TH JUNE 2016 9.00AM- 3.00PM

(Registration from 8.30am)

Identification and Response to Specific Learning Difficulties: The RTI Model and DSM 5

The focus of this full-day workshop will be specific learning disorders; their incidence and associated impact on students in primary and secondary schools throughout Australia. Psychologists have an important role to play in contributing to the school’s

response to all students struggling with the acquisition of academic skills, whatever the causative factors may be. For those students with an underlying neurodevelopmental disorder, such as a specific learning disorder with impairment in reading, writing or mathematics, they are often asked to contribute additional knowledge and skills. In order to do this well, school psychologists need to have a strong understanding of the RTI (Response to Intervention) model, the components of high quality instruction, and the strategies implicit in evidence-based intervention. They also need to understand the DSM 5 diagnostic criteria required to identify specific learning disorders.

Member \$165, Non-member \$195 Early bird rates apply until February 29th http://www.speld-sa.org.au/images//conference/Identification_and_Response_to_SLDs_The_RTI_Model_and_DSM_5_2016.pdf

SATURDAY 25th JUNE 2016 9.00AM- 3.00PM

(Registration from 8.30am)

Understanding Learning Difficulties - A practical guide

In this full-day workshop, the recently released AUSPELD Understanding Learning Difficulties - A practical guide will be reviewed, and effective ways to make use of it will be explored. Successful strategies for assisting students with developmental learning disorders such as dyslexia will be identified and discussed. The guide includes a wealth of valuable information and a comprehensive overview of evidence-based remediation and accommodation strategies. In addition it details the visible signs of learning disorders, effective teaching and accommodation strategies, diagnostic criteria, and issues such as self-esteem and dyslexia-friendly schools.

Tutor \$135, Member \$165, Non-member \$195

Early bird rates apply until February 29th

http://www.speld-sa.org.au/images/conference/Understanding_Learning_Difficulties_A_practical_guide.pdf

Attendees will have the opportunity to purchase the **AUSPELD Understanding Learning Difficulties guide** at a discounted price of \$50 (normally \$60) or the **AUSPELD Understanding Learning Difficulties Guide for Parents** for \$35 (pre-order on this form or purchase on the day of the workshop).

Dyscalculia Symposium

SPELD SA is delighted to host Brian Butterworth, Emeritus Professor of Cognitive Neuropsychology at University College, London and author of best-selling popular science book, *The Mathematical Brain*, in 2016 for an intensive look at Dyscalculia.

Professor Butterworth will run a full-day symposium on Saturday 2nd April, 2016 for teachers, educational psychologists, parents and others interested in learning why some students struggle more than others with mathematics. Professor Butterworth will be joined by other experts in the field of mathematics education and assessment. The current research evidence on the development of skills in numeracy and what can 'go wrong' will be presented and discussed. Particular emphasis will be placed on whether science can assist us to specify targets for intervention and, if so, how should teachers design these interventions?

Professor Butterworth and his co-presenters will explain what all of this information means in practical terms for teachers, educational psychologists, other professionals, for parents, and of course for individuals with dyscalculia.

Dyscalculia Symposium

Saturday 2nd April,

Location: Immanuel College, Novar Gardens

Tutor \$150, Member \$200, Non-member \$235

Early bird rates apply until February 29th www.speld-sa.org.au/images/conference/Dyscalculia_Symposium_2016.pdf

Workshops Term 1

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.

February

Dyslexia and other learning disorders: Introductory Seminar: Ref 030216

Wed 3rd Feb, 7 - 9pm, SPELD SA. Presenter: Sandy Russo, Director, SPELD SA. This seminar provides

information about different learning and behavioural disorders. There is a particular focus on dyslexia. For new tutors, teachers, parents, SSOs and other interested people. **Tutor/ft student \$15; Member \$50; Non-member \$70**

Session 1: Jolly Phonics – How to get started? Ref 060216am

Sat 6th Feb, 9.30am – noon (Registration 9.00am)

Location: Immanuel College, Novar Gardens

Presenters: Jan Polkinghorne and Frances Scobie, both JP teachers and Accredited Jolly Phonics

Trainers. A practical look at how to introduce the main 42 sounds of English in a student's first term at school. Includes essential elements of a lesson; programming and assessment; a look at available commercial and free resources; and use of IWB. Disc of free resources supplied. For teachers, SSOs, paraprofessionals, tutors, student teachers, parents years 1-7. **Tutor/ft student \$35; Member \$75; Non-member \$95**

Session 2: Jolly Phonics – So they know the sounds.

What next? Hands-on (2 ½ hours) Ref 060216pm

Sat 6th Feb, 1.00pm-3.30pm (Registration 12.30pm)

Location: Immanuel College, Novar Gardens

Presenters: Jan Polkinghorne and Frances Scobie, both JP teachers and Accredited Jolly Phonics

Trainers. Prerequisite: Jolly Phonics – How to get started. A very practical look at how to continue with Jolly Phonics for the rest of the Reception/ Foundation year, terms 2, 3 & 4, for building on and consolidating the 42 letter-sounds taught and introducing common alternative spellings. Outlines how to develop reading and writing skills; introduce alternative spellings; manage intake of new students; design lessons for students at different stages of development; and use computers or IWBs as an integral part of the program. Includes lesson plans, making your own aids, a look at available commercial materials, free downloads. All participants provided with a CD of free resources. For teachers, paraprofessionals, parents. **Tutor/ft student \$35; Member \$75; Non-member \$95**

Planning strategies for students with memory difficulties: Ref 090216

Tues 9th Feb, 7.00 - 9.00 pm, 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**

Getting started as a SPELD SA tutor - the problems students have and how to help: Ref 100216

Wed 10th Feb, 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

Session 3: Jolly Grammar -Spelling Focus (2½ hours) Ref 200216am

Sat 20th Feb, 9.30am – noon (Registration 9.00am)

Location: Immanuel College, Novar Gardens

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

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, programing, 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 200216pm

Sat 20th Feb ,1.00pm-3.30pm)Registration 12.30pm)

Location: Immanuel College, Novar Gardens

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

Software sampler session: Ref 260216

Fri 26th Feb, 1.30-3.30pm, SPELD SA

Please book early. 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**

March

Differentiating the curriculum for upper primary and high school students: Reading tasks: Ref 020316

Wed 2nd Mar, 7.00 - 9.00pm, SPELD SA

Presenter: Sandy Russo, Director, SPELD SA. Explores the types of difficulties 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**

Inclusive Reading in the 21st Century: Ref 080316

Tues 8th Mar, 7.00 - 9.00pm, SPELD SA

Presenter: Sandy Russo, Director, SPELD SA

This session will look at how easy it is to create an inclusive reading environment using e-books, e-reading, ITC and multimodal texts. We will discuss the pros and cons of some of the most popular e-reading devices. We will explore where reading materials for these devices can be best accessed and how easy it can be for you or your students to create content that can be accessed on such devices. Sandy will also demonstrate some of the assistive technologies that exist (some of them free) that enable students with moderate to severe reading difficulties to participate independently in everyday reading activities. For class and subject teachers, spec.ed. teachers & SSOs. **Tutor/ft student \$25; Member \$70; Non-member \$90**

Spelling - An X-ray View of Words: Ref 250215

Thurs 10th Mar, 7.00 - 9.30 pm, 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, SSO's, Parents Year 1- 8. **Tutor/ft student \$35; Member \$75; Non-member \$95**

Making the most of your PowerPoint: Ref 210316 Mon 21st Mar, 7.00 - 9.00 pm, SPELD SA

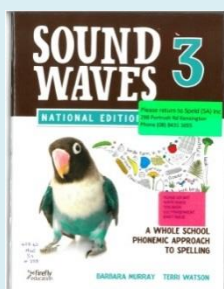
Presenter: Sandy Russo, Director, SPELD SA

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**

New Products

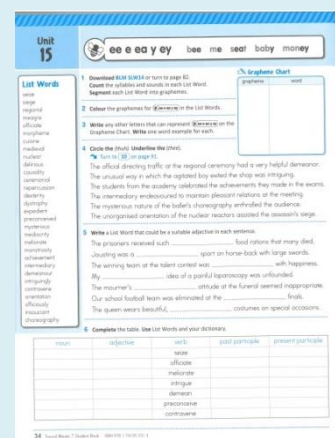
Literacy Resources

Sound Waves Series. Firefly Education. This series follows a phonemic approach for spelling for levels Foundation to 7. Each level has a Teacher Book, a Student Book and a Super Challenge Black Line Masters Book, where students can use skills taught to complete problems and develop problem-solving techniques. For those teachers wishing to differentiate for abilities in their programming, the units in each level follow the same phoneme (ie unit 15 in each level is the long /ee/ sound) with word lists progressively increasing in difficulty. The Teachers Book outlines activities, games, extension exercises and has links to online



Blackline Masters. Student book (F-7) \$18 each.; Teacher Book (F-7) \$70 each.; Super Challenge BLMs (1-6) \$40 each.

The SPELD Library also stocks the series for members to borrow.



Writing Time. Firefly Education.

A progressive handwriting program, from Foundation to year 6, helps students learn correct letter formation and shape. Lessons progress to introducing joins, slope, entries and exits of letters, and style and speed. Students practice skills with art-based practice activities. Printed in New South Wales Foundation Style. **Student Book (F-6) \$14 each**



Trugs Pics

Card games to inspire reading fluency and vocabulary. Trug Pics extends a wider vocabulary by playing card games using pictures alongside the trugs phonics stages. 4 decks of 36 cards (144 cards). Each deck has 5 graded games to play. Instructions included. Boxes sold separately **-\$65 per box.**

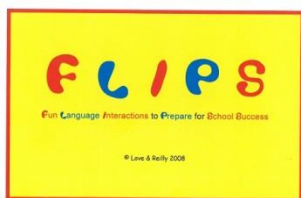


- Box 1- Stages 1-5, includes cvc, ccvc, cvcc and two syllable/ar,or,er (sunhat/starfish).
- Box 2- Stages 6-10, includes split digraphs (perfume), vowel digraphs (peacock), alternate digraphs (flowers) and two/three syllable words (zebra/windowsill).
- Box 3- Stages 11-15, includes soft c (centipede), soft g (ginger), cle/four syllable words (pineapple/Australia), four syllable words/ti, ci, si (pomegranates/Russia)

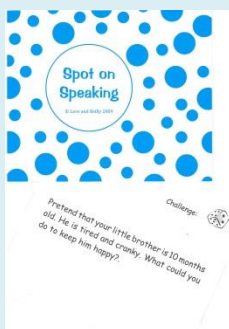
Oral Language Resources

FLIPS - Fun Language

Interactions to Prepare for School Success. *Love and Reilly 2008.* This resource has 100 pages of ideas and 'Flip Tips' to develop vocabulary, thinking and extend talking. A free standing book ideal for Pre-school and Junior Primary. - \$36



Spot On Speaking. *Love and Reilly 2009.* 70 conversation starter cards presented in a plastic box that promote children's conversation and language skills. Each card poses an open-ended question or task on ideas of Recounting, Vocabulary, Attributes, Reasoning, Pragmatics, Opinion, and Imagination. Explanation sheet included. Extension challenges to account for different needs in the classroom. Suits Pre-school to Junior Primary. - \$36



Starting School Resources

School Start Buddy:

A trendy case providing information, activities and resources designed to help children aged between 4 and 8 years become successful in reading and writing. Single, alphabetic letter tiles with multiple vowel tiles. The case includes a whiteboard interior to allow students to practice writing (pen and eraser included). Blank whiteboard tiles for customise learning and sound practice - \$49



School Start Handbook: This book contains reading and writing activities that use the resources in the School Start Buddy, along with a list of exercises and example words - \$20

Tutors needed

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

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.

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

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.

Are you a teacher or parent who loves apps? Do you have your own iPad or tablet?

We want you!



We are looking for volunteers to be part of a team to test and review free apps, with the view to recommend them to SPELD SA members. The apps will focus on literacy development and volunteers will review using set criteria.

You might work full time, part time or be retired. The time you review can be very flexible. You might also know of an app that we don't!

There are so many apps out there and, naturally, we only want to recommend the best for our students. Join the team!

Email info@speld-sa.org.au (subject field: App Review)

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](#)

[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/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=18&Itemid=60