

ESSENTIALS

The Essentials are a collection of books that focus on specific skills and abilities essential for success in reading and writing at critical early levels.

The Essentials program covers the essential vocabulary, reading skills and literacy strategies students need to become proficient readers and writers in the early years of primary school.

Essentials are highly suitable for:

- Learning difficulties/special needs students
- Remedial reading and intervention
- ESL/Non-English speaking background students
- Take-home reading collections

The first set of thirty titles in **Essentials A** has been expertly written to give children repeated exposure to high frequency words. It introduces and reinforces high-frequency vocabulary recognition. All of the words most often used in spoken and written communication are incorporated.

Features

- Repeated exposure to the first 192 essential high-frequency words
- Consistent and predictable repetition and recognition strategies where support for non-high frequency words is needed
- Full range of phonic, graphic, syntactic and contextual reading cues

The second set of thirty titles in **Essentials B** gives children effective and repeated exposure to words starting with initial consonant clusters (or 'blends'). Essentials B introduce and reinforce everyday initial consonant clusters. The relevant initial consonant clusters are reinforced through repetition and rhyme and a balance of story types allows students to recognise a variety of narrative forms.


The third set of thirty titles in **Essentials C** introduces and reinforces everyday final consonant clusters. The relevant final consonant clusters are reinforced through repetition and rhyme and a balance of story types across all thirty titles allows students to recognise a variety of narrative forms. They feature the following:

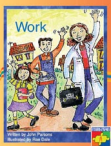




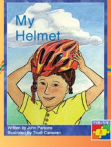

- Repeated exposure to a high percentage of final consonant cluster words
- Words beginning with 35 final consonant clusters are repeated and reinforced throughout the 30 books

We are confident that the Essentials collections will give children the tools needed to achieve the goals of the first few years of schooling.

ESSENTIALS PACK A – High Frequency Words

TITLE	LEVEL		DESCRIPTION
The Treehouse	3		A delightful fiction story about a group of friends who find a treehouse but have to go over a fence, under a fence and up a tree to reach it
Guide dog	3		A non-fiction photographic book showing a guide dog at work.
Jump up!	3		A fiction story about a family who are training their pet dog. The story ends with a humorous twist involving their pet cat.
What is the time?	3		A fiction story about a boy getting ready for school, teaching the concept of time.
Slowly, quickly	4		A non-fiction report with double-page spreads, teaching movement and size concepts.
Good day, bad day	4		A fiction story about a boy who is deciding what to do on a bad weather day. The story ends on a positive literacy note.
Pick up the food	5		A non-fiction report about three familiar animals and three people in a family and how they pick up their food.
Hide and Seek	5		A fiction story about a girl and her brother who are playing hide and seek.
Can we get a new pet?	6		A fiction story about a mother and her daughter who go to a pet shop to buy a new pet.
Seeds and plants	6		A non-fiction procedure and report showing how plants grow from seeds.
The black cat	7		A fiction story about a black cat who is searching for a friend. Not all the animals are interested in becoming its friend, but a little girl is

Hit the ball	7		A fiction story about a group of four friends who are playing softball when suddenly the ball crashes through a window!
Sausages	8		Humorous fiction story about a dad, his twin daughters and son who are having a barbecue. The story ends with a humorous twist.
Fun at school	8		A delightful fiction story about two brothers – the older one takes his younger brother to school for the first time.
In the lift	9		A story featuring a mother and her son who demonstrate how to operate a lift.
Polar bear	7		Photographic non-fiction descriptions of what polar bears do in the Arctic region.
Old tree, new tree	8		A fiction story with a conservation theme about an old dead tree that was cut down and then replaced by a new, young tree.
Our lost cat	9		Humorous fiction story about a dad, his twin daughters and son who are trying to find their lost cat. The story ends with a funny twist.
Our new house	9		A fiction story about a family who move to a new, bigger house in the same street. The older sister finally gets her own bedroom!
The window garden	10		A procedural story about a brother and his sister who demonstrate how to make a window garden.
Where is my pizza?	10		A fiction story about a mum and her three children having pizza for dinner. But where is Mum's pizza? All the pizza is on the children's plates!
Which plants?	10		A fiction story about a dad, mum and their son who go to the nursery to buy new plants.
Something in the car	11		A delightful fiction story about the secrecy surrounding something in the car – a young boy's birthday present.

Work	11		A story about the jobs that each person in a family does at different times of the day.
The smart little fish	12		A humorous fiction story about a smart little male fish and a big bad female fish. The story ends with a humorous twist and a strong moral.
The penguin race	12		A humorous fiction story about three penguin friends who race down a mountain.
At the beach	13		A fiction story about a family – mother, daughter and grandmother – at the beach. The story ends with a humorous twist.
Call mum	13		A fiction story about a dad and his daughter who were shopping late in town. They call Mum at work to meet for dinner in town.
My helmet	13		A story about a boy who tells us how wearing a helmet saved him from serious injury when he fell off his bike.
Grandad's Cup of tea	13		A fiction story about a boy who makes his grandad a cup of tea that is too hot. His grandad sleeps but when he awakes his tea is too cold!











ESSENTIALS PACK B – Initial Consonant Clusters

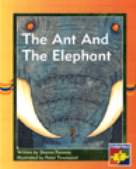





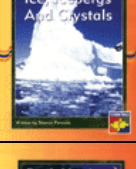




TITLE	LEVEL		DESCRIPTION
Scratch, rat, scratch	5		A fiction story about Dad, Mum and a rat! Told in a simple verse, the story ends with a humorous twist.
Sniff, sniff, sneeze!	5		A fiction story told in verse about a boy who is in bed with a terrible cold.
Don't splash me!	6		A fiction story about a mum who is being splashed by her son, Ben. Page by page, the students will see a big wave in the background gradually moving towards Mum and Ben. SPLASH!
Turn the sprinkler on	7		A humorous story about a dad who wants to use the sprinkler and calls out for Mum to turn the tap on. But the water comes out at the wrong time!
Swans and sparrows	8		A fiction story about two boys who feed swans and sparrows with crusts and crumbs from a bridge in the park.
A glitter card	8		A real-life book about a Grandpa who shows how he made a glitter birthday card for Grandma. The text type is procedure.
Driving to the drycleaners	9		A fiction story about Grandma who complains about Grandad's driving on the way to the drycleaners. The grandson is the passenger and narrator.
The storm	6		A fiction story about a man who got caught in the storm while waiting for a bus. Ideal for non-fiction teaching about the weather.
My scooter	7		A non-fiction description of a scooter written in verse form, from a character's perspective. The girl describes its main features and the safety rules.
Press enter	7		A real-life book written in simple verse about a boy whose printer isn't working until his older sister discovers that he hasn't plugged it in!
Cool crow party	9		A fiction story told in verse about the coolest crow party around!



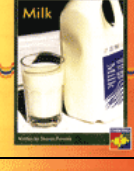
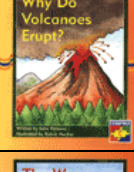




An elephant's trunk	9		A non-fiction book describing some of the ways an elephant uses its trunk. The text type is a report.
Your skeleton	9		A non-fiction book featuring photographs of children with illustrations of the actual part of their skeleton as seen in each photograph.
A strawberry smoothie	10		This real-life book features a Grandad and his grandson demonstrating how to make a strawberry smoothie. The text type is procedure.
Slugs and snails	10		A non-fiction book about slugs and snails. The text type is a report.
Don't blink	14		A real-life text about a woman with blue eyes and a man with brown eyes who have a blinking competition.
Rollercoaster Thrill	8		A fiction story told in verse about the thrilling feelings of riding on a rollercoaster.
Shrimps for sale	8		Set in a food market, this delightful verse tells of a woman and a fishmonger who disagree on the price of the shrimps.
The street parade	10		A fun story told in verse form about the lively performers in a street parade.
The frog and the fly	11		A fiction story based on a traditional tale genre. It is about a fly that makes fun of a tadpole. The tadpole has the last laugh when he turns into a frog!
The frog princess	13		A fiction story based on the traditional tale, The Frog Prince. In this story, a prince turns into a frog and, to his surprise, falls in love with the frog princess.
The black spider	14		A fiction story based on a traditional tale about a silly fly that makes fun of the black spider's web. The spider has the last laugh when he dares the fly to test his web, and the fly gets trapped!
The brave firefighters	15		Non-fiction texts about what firefighters do before, during and after a fire. The text type is a report.

The silly squealing pig	16		A story about three silly pigs that build bridges. It adopts the features of a traditional tale with a thought-provoking ending.
Great reptiles	11		A non-fiction report about some of the great reptiles, featuring dinosaurs and crocodiles. Other reptiles identified at the end of the book include a lizard, a snake, a turtle and the tuatara.
Baking bread	12		A non-fiction real-life story about twin bakers who show the procedure they use when baking bread.
The planets	13		A photographic non-fiction description of the planets, non-planets (sun, moon) and the advantages of space travel.
Two silly dwarfs	15		A story about two silly dwarfs who misjudge the size of a troll at the other end of a bridge. They think they can catch him for breakfast!
Plants grow	16		A non-fiction text describing what plants need to grow and the main parts of a plant. The plant groups covered are fruit and vegetables.
Four and twenty blackbirds	12		A humorous adaptation of a favourite traditional rhyme, Four And Twenty Blackbirds.

ESSENTIALS PACK C – Common word endings

TITLE	LEVEL		DESCRIPTION
I wish I was an elf!	6		
Yelp! Help!	7		
A sandwich for a cockroach	8		
What do you like to munch for lunch?	9		
Rickety tickety tock!	9		
The top bunk	10		
Up and down the ramp	10		
Fast cars	11		
Is that an insect?	11		
A special birthday gift	12		

The ant and the elephant	12		
What is a string instrument?	13		
The health food show	13		
Toss a coin	14		
Gold	14		
It's not my fault!	15		
Ice, icebergs and crystals	15		
Back yard camping	16		
The girl and the blackbird	16		
Our teeth	17		
What is a tusk?	17		

Trish the jellyfish	17		
Blast off!	18		
Milk	18		
Why do volcanoes erupt?	18		
The wasp	19		
What grows next?	19		
A merry band of pirate mice	19		
Warm blooded or cold blooded?	20		
What's that smell?	20	