



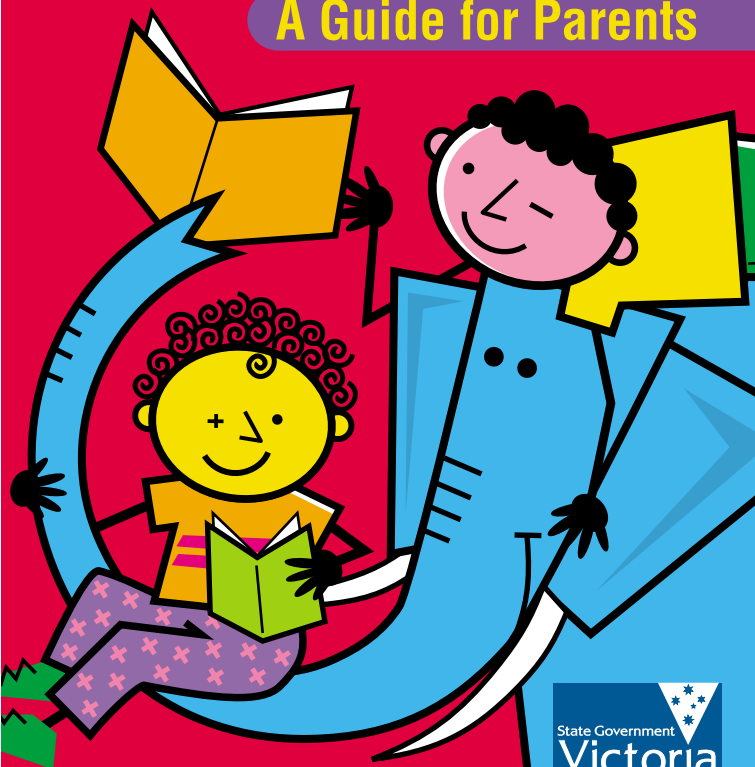
Early Years



More Books for Kids

*Choosing Books for Children
in the Early Years of Schooling*

A Guide for Parents



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The book titles and websites contained in this booklet were provided by the Children's Book Council of Victoria.

They were carefully selected to represent a range of styles with the aim of listing readily available quality literature that can be enjoyed by children alone or shared with adults.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Department of Education, Employment and Training thanks the following publishers for permission to use their book covers:

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Allen and Unwin

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Magic Beach Alison Lester

My Girragundi Meme McDonald and Boori Pryor

Stella Queen of the Snow Marie-Louise Gay

Hodder Children's Books

Boo to a Goose Mem Fox illustrator David Miller

Pan MacMillan

Just Tricking Andy Griffiths illustrator Terry Denton

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READING IS FUN

One of the most **important** things
you can do for your child
is to **explore books** together.

Encourage children to read
by **reading aloud** to them.

This gives them a strong and solid
foundation for future success.

More Books for Kids provides a list of
children's books to help with the selection of appropriate
books at different stages of reading development.

The book titles are listed in broad stages and it is
recommended that you take into account children's
interests and involve them in the process of choosing
books.

The books listed are generally available in libraries and
bookshops.

READING

Reading is about making sense of print. Successful readers use a range of information when reading, including:

- knowledge of how language is spoken (structure)
- previous experiences and understandings of the topic (meaning)
- knowledge of letters and sounds and how they are represented in print (grapho-phonics).

Rather than rely on one source of information, such as sounding out, readers also use their knowledge of language and of the topic they are reading about. The picture is also important as it gives clues about the text.

Successful readers expect what they are reading to make sense and will predict what is happening in the text. They correct themselves when their reading does not make sense.



SHARING BOOKS WITH CHILDREN

Valuing and sharing books from a very early age is one important way you can encourage children to learn to read.

Making a special time to read books can become a comfortable and pleasurable part of the daily routine. Bedtime is an ideal time to share the wonder and excitement contained within the pages of a book.

Reading together can be a cherished part of childhood. The aim is not only for children to become readers but also to enjoy reading and to want to read.

Children who have languages other than English will benefit from being read to in both English and their home language.



Children who are **BEGINNING** READERS ...

- are learning how to handle books
- are finding out about how reading works – where a book starts and which way the print goes
- like to look at books and enjoy being read to
- often like hearing favourite books over and over again
- use their memory of the story and pictures when attempting to read on their own.

READING to... READING with... READING BY...

Depending on the kind of book being read and its degree of difficulty, you will need to decide whether it will be read **to**, **with** or **by your child**.

Reading to your children enables them to hear and enjoy books they would be unable to read alone. It also shows them how reading works. You are demonstrating what you do when you read aloud by providing a model for your children. You are also showing them that reading is an enjoyable activity and that reading can be used to gain information. Read to children often ... just for the fun of it!

Reading with your children happens when you share a book together. This is very pleasing for them as they gain confidence through the support of a more able reader. Taking turns to read and being able to join in as they feel confident allows children to see and think of themselves as readers. Books that have repeated sentences or phrases are great for this.

Reading by your children is when they read books with little help. This may involve reading silently or aloud. It may be re-reading favourite books many times or browsing through more difficult books that interest them.



Some books to choose from ...

ABC Book of Nursery Rhymes

Margaret Wild, editor (ABC Books)

Alfie Gets in First

Shirley Hughes (Bodley Head)

Animal Food

Jane Pearson (Echidna Books)

Baby

Tania Cox
illustrator Ann James
(Working Title Press)

Baby Bear Goes to the Beach (Series)

Lorette Broekstra (Lothian Books)

Baby Bilby, Where Do You Sleep?

Narelle Oliver (Lothian Books)

Bath Time

Sue Briggs-Pattison and
Bev Harvey Illustrator Elaine
Pattison (Scholastic)

Big Dog

Libby Gleeson
illustrator Armin Greder (Scholastic)



Bilby Moon

Margaret Spurling
illustrator Danny Snell
(Working Title Press)

Boo to a Goose

Mem Fox
illustrator David Miller
(Hodder Children's Books)



Can You Keep a Secret?

Pamela Allen (Penguin)

Changes

Anthony Browne (Julia McRae)

Dog In, Cat Out

Gillian Rubinstein
illustrator Ann James
(Omnibus Books)

Dog Tales

Janet McLean
illustrator Andrew McLean
(Allen & Unwin)

Each Peach, Pear Plum

Allan Ahlberg
illustrator Janet Ahlberg (Kestrel)

Emily Loves To Bounce
Stephen Michael King (Scholastic)

Gorgeous

Caroline Castle
illustrator Sam Childs (Crown)

Green Eggs and Ham

Dr Seuss (Collins)

Henry's Bed

Anna Perversi
illustrator Ron Brooks (Viking)

Kipper

Mick Inkpen
(Hodder Children's Books)

Where Are You Blue Kangaroo?

Emma Chichester Clark
(Doubleday)

Just Like You and Me

David Miller
(Hodder Children's Books)

Little Bat

Tania Cox
illustrator Ann James
(Working Title Press)

Lizzie and Smiley

Julia McClelland
illustrator Ann James (Penguin)

Magic Beach

Alison Lester (Allen & Unwin)



Marty and Mei-Ling

Phil Cummings
illustrator Craig Smith
(Random House)

The Midnight Feast

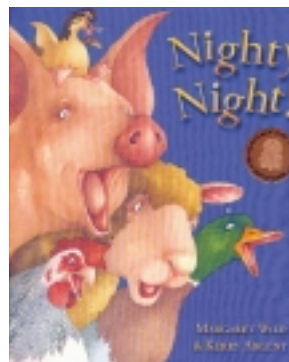
Margaret Wild
illustrator Ann James (ABC Books)

Mr Gumpy's Outing

John Burningham (Puffin)

Nighty Night

Margaret Wild
illustrator Kerry Argent
(ABC Books)



Olivia

Ian Falconer
(Atheneum Books for Young
Readers)

Owl Babies

Martin Waddell
(Walker Books)

The Rattle Trap Car

Phyllis Root
illustrator Jill Barton
(Walker Books)

Waddle Giggle Gargle

Pamela Allen (Penguin)

Add some of your favourites ...



Some books to choose from...

A is for Auntie

Elaine Russell (ABC Books)

Amelia Ellicott's Garden

Liliana Stafford
illustrator Stephen Michael King
(Margaret Hamilton Books)

The Bath Monster

John Danalis
(Hodder Headline Australia)

Belinda

Pamela Allen (Viking)



Burglar Bill

Allan Ahlberg
illustrator Janet Ahlberg
(Heinemann)

Cocky Too (Series)

Margaret Clark
(Hodder Headline Australia)

Downsized

Mike Dumbleton
illustrator Tom Jellet
(Random House)

Ducky's Nest

Gillian Rubinstein
illustrator Terry Denton
(Random House)

Faust's Party

Matt Ottley
(Hodder Children's Books)

Harriet, You'll Drive Me Wild!

Mem Fox
illustrator Marla Frazee
(Hodder Children's Books)

Holiday at Nan's

Sue Briggs-Pattison and
Bev Harvey
illustrator Elaine Russell
(Scholastic)

Little Bear's Grandpa

Nigel Gray (Tiger Tales)

Little White Dogs Can't Jump

Rosie Smith
illustrator Bruce Whatley
(Angus & Robertson)

Lizzie Zipmouth

Jacqueline Wilson
illustrator Nick Sharratt
(Young Corgi)

Max

Bob Graham (Walker Books)



Meltdown

Barbara Kerr-Wilson
illustrator David Cox
(Margaret Hamilton Books)

Children who are

BUILDING ON EARLY READING EXPERIENCES...

- realise that the print tells a story or relates information
- use pictures to help them understand the story or text
- understand that the words convey a constant message
- begin to match written words to spoken words when reading with or to a more able reader
- love to listen to stories and to hear the rhythms of language when an adult reads to them
- start to develop an awareness of themselves as readers.

Mrs Wilkinson's Chooks

Leone Peguero
illustrator Mike Spoor
(Random House)

Neptune's Nursery

Allan Sheather & Kim Michelle
Toft (UQP)

Not Now Bernard

David McKee (Anderson Press)

Pog

Lyn Lee
illustrator Kim Gamble
(Omnibus Books)

Raindance

Cathy Applegate
illustrator Dee Huxley
(Margaret Hamilton Books)

Shock Monday

Gillian Bradshaw
illustrator Dee Huxley
(Omnibus Books)

Strega Nonna

Tomie De Paola (Putnam)

Tom Goes to Kindergarten

Margaret Wild
illustrator David Legge
(ABC Books)

The Snowman

Raymond Briggs
(Random House)

The Trouble with Dad (Series)

Babette Cole (Treasure Press)

Twin Trouble

Sally Rippin (Omnibus Books)

Walk, Walk, Walk, Walk

Sue Briggs-Pattison and
Bev Harvey
Illustrator Shane Russell
(Scholastic)

You'll Wake the Baby!

Catherine Jinks
illustrator Andrew McLean
(Penguin)

Add some of your favourites ...



Children who are **BEGINNING** to use a RANGE OF READING STRATEGIES...

- use their knowledge of the topic, the structure of the text and visual sources of information such as letter patterns when they are reading
- may sometimes use the sounds that letters represent to help reading
- recognise many words and are willing to have a go at reading unfamiliar books
- use illustrations and understanding of known topics when reading
- will correct themselves when what they have read doesn't make sense
- are learning that there are many different types of texts and their special features (stories, factual, information, instructions, etc.).



Some books to choose from ...

Arabella

Wendy Orr
illustrator Kim Gamble
(HarperCollins)

Blue Hair Day

James Moloney
illustrator Leigh Hobbs (Penguin)

The Excuse

Allan Baillie
illustrator Ned Culic
(Puffin Books)

Fairy Dream

Carol McLean Carr
(Omnibus Books)

Fixing the Tiger

Penny Hall (Koala Books)

Ginger

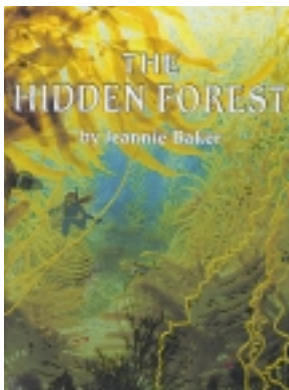
Christobel Mattingley (Penguin)

Going for Kalta: Hunting for Sleepy Lizards at Yalata

Yvonne Edwards (IAD Press)

The Hidden Forest

Jeannie Baker (Walker Books)



Honey and Bear

Ursula Dubosarsky
illustrator Ron Brooks (Viking)

Hooray for Diffendooper Day!

Dr Seuss with some help from
Jack Prelutsky & Lane Smith
(Collins)

Islands in my Garden

Jim Howes
illustrator Roland Harvey
(Roland Harvey Books)

Jamie O'Rourke and the Big Potato

Tomie De Paola
(Ashton Scholastic)

Jamil's Clever Cat

Fiona French and Dick Newby
(Frances Lincoln)

Lily and the Wizard Wackoo

Judy Fitzpatrick
illustrator Don Hatcher
(Omnibus Books)

Luke's Way of Looking

Nadia Wheatley
illustrator Andrew McLean
(Omnibus Books)

Minton Goes Under (Series)

Anna Fienberg and Kim Gamble
(Allen & Unwin)

My Dearest Dinosaur

Margaret Wild
illustrator Donna Rawlins
(Scholastic)

The Owl Who was Afraid Of the Dark

Jill Tomlinson
illustrator Joanne Cole
(Methuen Children's Books)

Poetry to the Rescue

Steven Herrick (UQP)

Princess Grandma

Jenni Overend
illustrator Naomi C. Lewis
(Scholastic)

Prue Theroux

Gillian Rubinstein
illustrator David Mackintosh
(Random House Australia)

Run Damon Run

Anne Ingram
illustrator Junko Morimoto
(Random House)

Sandswimmers: the Secret Life of Australia's Dead Heart

Narelle Oliver (Lothian Books)

Sarindi and the Lucky Bird

Janine Fraser
illustrator Kim Gamble
(Angus & Robertson)

Serena the Sea Serpent

Garth Nix (Penguin)

Ships

John Nicholson
(Omnibus Books)

The Sign of the Seahorse

Graeme Base (Viking)

Speak Chinese, Fang, Fang!

Sally Rippin
(Omnibus Books)

Stella, Queen of the Snow

Marie-Louise Gay
(Allen & Unwin)



The Two Gorillas

Ursula Dubosarsky
illustrator Mitch Vane
(Puffin Books)

Water Dragons

Patricia Wrightson (Penguin)

Wish You Were Here

Colin McNaughton
(Walker Books)

Worst Team Ever

Philip Gwynne (Penguin)



Add some of your favourites ...



Some books to choose from...

Anna the Goanna and other Poems

Jill McDougall
(Aboriginal Studies Press)

Away with the Birds

Errol Broome
(Freemantle Arts Centre Press)

Chloe's Wish

Diana Chase
(Fremantle Arts Centre Press)

The Chocolate Lovers

Gabriel Gate, Joan van Loon,
Chantal Stewart (Allen & Unwin)

Dog King

Paul Collins (Lothian)

Freeze a Crowd

Paul Jennings & Ted Greenwood
illustrator Terry Denton (Penguin)

Highway

Nadia Wheatley
illustrator Andrew McLean
(Omnibus Books)

The Gift

Libby Hathorn
illustrator Greg Rogers
(Random House)

The Green Turtle

Inge Plater and Sue Pearson
(Angus & Robertson)

Hannah and the Tomorrow Room

Libby Gleeson (Penguin)



Deadly (Series)

Morris Gleitzman and
Paul Jennings (Penguin)

Dear Writer

Libby Gleeson
illustrator David Cox (Puffin Books)

My Dog

John Heffernan
illustrator Andrew McLean
(Margaret Hamilton)

The Dog's Just Been Sick in the Honda

Colin Thompson
illustrator Peter Viska
(Hodder Children's Books)



How to Guzzle Your Garden

Jackie French (HarperCollins)

I Findem, P I

Colleen Barton (Scholastic)

Jenny Angel

Margaret Wild
illustrator Anne Spudvilas (Viking)

Children who are

BECOMING FLUENT READERS...

- can read more varied and complex texts for longer periods of time
- read a variety of reading materials and predict and correct themselves to maintain meaning
- can recognise many words
- often prefer to read silently but will share and reflect on the book to clarify the meaning and give opinions about what they have read
- will select reading materials appropriate for their purposes from libraries, school collections and the internet
- enjoy listening to others read.

Jaleesa the Emu,

Noal Kerr and Susannah Brindle
illustrator Craig Charles (Puffin)

June 29, 1999

David Weisner (Clarion)

**The Lenski Kids and
Dracula**

Libby Hathorn
illustrator Peter Viska (Puffin)

**Lily Quench and the
Dragon of Ashby**

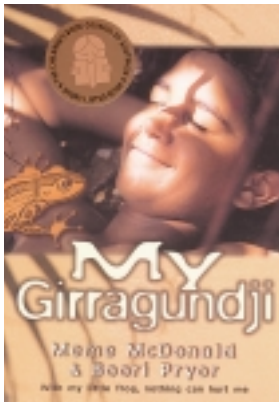
Natalie Jane Prior
(Hodder Children's Books)

The Lost Thing

Shaun Tan (Lothian Books)

My Girragundji

Meme McDonald and
Boori Pryor (Allen & Unwin)



Norton's Hut

John Marsden
illustrator Peter Gouldthorpe
(Lothian)

Old Pig

Margaret Wild
illustrator Ron Brooks
(Allen & Unwin)

**Rhianna and the Wild
Magic**

David Luckett (Omnibus Books)

Robber Girl

Margaret Wild
illustrator Donna Rawlins
(Random House)

Smash!

David Caddy
(Fremantle Arts Centre Press)

The Stinky Cheese Man

John Scieskwa and Lane Smith
(Viking)

The Spangled Drongo

Steven Herrick (UQP)

Surfing Mr Petrovic

Colin Bowles (Penguin)

The Sweetest Fig

Chris Van Allsburg
(Andersen Press)

**What do You Think,
Feezal?**

Elizabeth Honey (Allen & Unwin)

**When Jessie Came
Across the Sea**

Amy Hest
illustrator P.J. Lynch
(Walker Books)

The Whispering Cloth

Pegi Deitz Shea
illustrator Anita Riggio (Boyd Mills)

Winning Back Dad

Ian Bone (Walker Books)

**Add some
of your favourites ...**

**Children who are
EXTENDING
THEIR READING
SKILLS...**

- read confidently for both enjoyment and information
- understand what they read, talk about their opinions and make connections with what they have read
- read a wider variety of texts
- may be reading longer and more detailed text
- may be reading silently for longer periods of time
- may choose to follow a particular author or series of books they find enjoyable or informative.



Some books to choose from ...

A Flock of Blats

Michael Stephens (HarperCollins)

Artemis Fowl

Eion Colfer (Penguin)

Bartlett and the City of Flames (Series)

Odo Hirsch (Allen & Unwin)

Building the Sydney Harbour Bridge

John Nicholson (Allen & Unwin)

Bumface

Morris Gleitzman (Penguin)

The Colour of Sunshine

David Metzenthen (Penguin)

The Game of the Goose

Ursula Dubosarsky (Penguin)

Hitler's Daughter

Jackie French (HarperCollins)

Fiddle-back

Elizabeth Honey (Allen & Unwin)

Horsehead Boy

Rory Barnes (HarperCollins)

Just Tricking

Andy Griffiths (Pan Macmillan)

Wally the Whiz Kid (Series)

Margaret Clark (Puffin)

NipsX1

Ruth Starke (Lothian)

No-name Bird

Josef Vondra (Puffin)

Olympia: Warrior Athletes of Ancient Greece

Dyan Blacklock
illustrator David Kennett
(Omnibus Books)

Onion Tears

Diana Kidd (HarperCollins)

Pole to Pole

Pamela Freeman (Koala Books)

A Series of Unfortunate Events

Lemony Snicket (HarperCollins)

Seventh Tower (Series)

Garth Nix (Scholastic)

Skellig

David Almond
(Hodder Children's Books)

The Rabbits

John Marsden
illustrator Shaun Tan (Lothian)

The Snow Pony

Alison Lester (Allen & Unwin)

Someone Like Me

Elaine Forrestal (Puffin)

Spy Babies

Ian Bone (Lothian)

Tajore Arkle

Jackie French (HarperCollins)

Time Warp Trio (Series)

John Scieskwa and Lane Smith
(Viking)

Troy Thompson's Radical Prose Folio

Gary Crew
illustrator Craig Smith (Lothian)

The Windsinger

William Nicholson
(Random House)

The Witch in the Lake

Anna Fienberg (Penguin)

Two Hands Together

Diana Kidd
(Penguin)

Water Buffalo Days

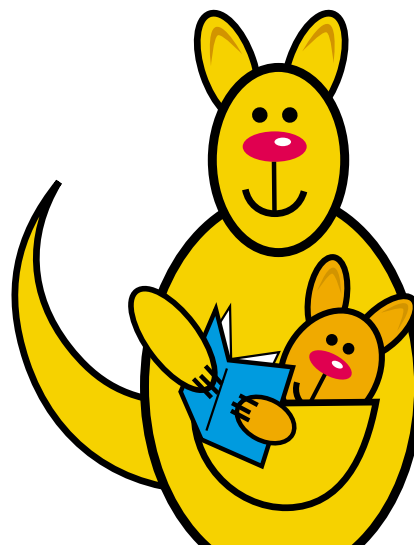
Huynh Quang Nhung
(Scholastic)

What were the Gremholz's Dimensions Again?

(Alien Zones series)
Brian Caswell (UQP)



Add some of your favourites ...





HELPING YOUR CHILD WITH READING

Read lots of different books – flap books, board books, shape books.

Find a special place to read — e.g. comfortable chair, bean bag.

Make a special time to read together such as before bed at night.

Go shopping for books together and share the fun. Shopping trips can include second-hand bookshops, garage sales and opportunity shops. Children can choose a special book to add to their very own library.

Buy taped books and listen to them on long trips in the car.

Talk about the book together before and after you read it.

Give your child their own shelf in the family bookcase where they can put their books.

Make a library in your child's room where they can return again and again. Make it inviting by using pictures and cushions.

Read newspapers and magazines together – the sports pages or comic sections are good places to start.

Point out signs, labels and logos to your child on packaging at the supermarket, near roads and in shops.

Keep a bag of books in the car, so that children can pull out a favourite when you are on a trip.

Subscribe to a magazine that your child has a special interest in — e.g. sports, animals or craft.

Read the TV guide together and try to find movies and programs that tie in with books — e.g. *Bananas in Pyjamas*, *Around the Twist*.

Follow the instructions for making a cake or using an appliance.

Find a map and work out the best way to a relative's or friend's house.

Encourage your child to write about a special event and then illustrate it. Make it into a book.

Write a shopping list together and then go shopping. Your child can read the labels and packages to help with the shopping.



USING THE LOCAL LIBRARY

- Where can you find hundreds and hundreds of interesting books?
- Where can you find quality books based on a huge range of topics?

The local library!



Local libraries have a wide range of resources that you and your child can use. These include videos, tapes, books the internet, CD ROMs and other computer software.

If you can't make it to your local library, there are now more than thirty mobile libraries stopping at over 600 locations around Victoria.

www.librariesvictoria.net

Phone: 1300 362 292

Make a regular time each week to visit the library together.

Every member of your family can have a library card. Your child will feel very special having their own card with their name on it.

Find out when there are special story times for your children to attend.



Ask the librarian to help you and your child choose from the enormous range of reading materials available.

Help your child take care of the books borrowed and return them on time.

Use the computer and internet service to look up favourite books, authors and illustrators.

A specific search for an author or publisher will enable access to many interesting and worthwhile sites.

USEFUL WEBSITES

Listed here are some sites which were current at the time of publication ...

ACHUKA - Children's Books
www.achuka.co.uk/index2.html

Books Illustrated
www.booksillustrated.com.au

Children's Book Council of Australia
www.cbc.org.au

The Children's Book Council (USA)
www.cbcbooks.org

Database of Award-Winning Children's Literature
<http://www2.wcoil.com/~ellerbee/childlit.html>

Dromkeen
www.scholastic.com.au/dromkeen/

Just for Kids Who Love Books
www.alanbrown.com

Magpies Magazine
www.magpies.net.au

YABBA – Young Australian's Best Book Award
<http://home.vicnet.net.au/~yabba/>

Victorian State Libraries
www.librariesvictoria.net



COMET and EXPLORE

Australia's Leading Children's Magazines—

- magazines that sparkle with reading opportunities
- stories, pictures, activities, puzzles and interesting facts.

These magazines provide the ideal way to encourage all children to become readers. They are linked to the Early Years Literacy Program, and can be delivered to your home four times a year.

Comet is for children aged 5–7 years.

Explore is for children aged 8–10 years.

Magazine		Price	
Comet	(4 issues per year)	\$22.00	\$
Explore	(4 issues per year)	\$22.00	\$
(prices GST inclusive)			TOTAL \$

Name _____

Address _____

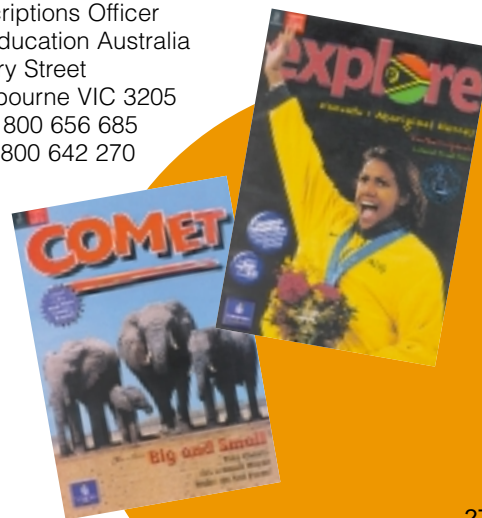
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 Pearson Education Australia
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 South Melbourne VIC 3205
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 Free Fax 1800 642 270



More Books for Kids

REMEMBER TO...

- Display an interest in reading yourself; let your child see you reading.
- Praise your child's efforts at reading – 'I like the way you ... You must have been practising.'
- Make reading time enjoyable for everyone — five minutes of fun is better than ten minutes of struggle. Relax and enjoy some quality time together.

BEFORE READING ASK...

- Have we read a book like this before?
- Who do you think might be in this book?
- Talk about the book.

WHEN READING...

- Enjoy the story.
- Use an expressive voice
- Avoid interrupting the reading if possible.

AFTER READING...

- Talk about the book and what happened.
- What was your favourite part?
- Talk about similar books.
- Who was your favourite character?
- Share and compare your own experiences to those in the book.



You can find out more by...

- Contacting your child's school
- Visiting your local library www.librariesvictoria.net
- Browsing the Early Years of Schooling website at www.sofweb.vic.edu.au/eys
- Telephoning Education Line on (03) 9637 2222 or 1800 809 834 (freecall)
- Accessing translations of this booklet in 15 languages other than English from www.sofweb.vic.edu.au/eys/lit/litpp.htm

This book is one of a series of booklets for parents with children in the Early Years of Schooling.