

Little Learners Love Literacy®

# Decodable books



Australian books children LOVE to read  
with words they CAN read.



Little Learners Love Literacy®



# What are decodable books?

Decodable books are books that are 'phonetically controlled' to contain the letter-sound correspondences that the reader has been explicitly taught. Children use their knowledge of graphemes (letters) and phonemes (sounds) to decode the words in the text independently – with no guessing!

## What is decoding?

Decoding is the process of reading a word by sounding out and blending the sounds together from left to right.

written word

graphemes

phonemes

spoken word

brush → b-r-u-sh → /b/r/u/sh/ → brush

## The Little Learners decodable books

The Little Learners decodable books are delightful stories that children can read by applying their phonics knowledge. Each book is carefully mapped to the Little Learners teaching sequence, so children can experience success in reading from the start of their journey.

Australian  
books children  
**LOVE** to read  
with words they  
**CAN** read.

Revise

Teach

Practise

Apply

Assess

We have three series of decodable books. 'Pip and Tim' and 'The Wiz Kids' are our fiction series. These books contain funny stories and quirky illustrations to grab children's attention. With the Pip and Tim stories, children love to follow the familiar characters on new adventures through the stages of the Little Learners program. And The Wiz Kids have a variety of characters and fun storylines for extra practice. Little Learners, Big World is our nonfiction series. These books are full of interesting facts and brilliant images to educate and inspire.

**We call our decodable books 'our secret ingredient' to success. Why?**

With these books, children are always practising what they have been taught, so they are able to read any unknown word by sounding out and blending. Children will experience success and build confidence while developing the habits of strong readers.



# Look inside!

The Little Learners decodable books increase in length and complexity as children move through the program. Although they are phonetically controlled to only contain the letters and sounds children have learnt, the fiction books are real stories with a range of characters, whacky scenarios, and diverse language features.



Decodable books give children the opportunity to achieve mastery in reading and gain confidence in their abilities.



The higher stages of our fiction and nonfiction series contain a range of exciting text features, including flow charts, diagrams, recounts, blog posts and quizzes.

## How to enjoy the book

The Little Learners Love Literacy® decodable books include notes and activities to support the development of children’s reading fluency, comprehension and vocabulary development – with ideas for discussion too. The 'How to enjoy this book' section features:

- questions to discuss (including vocabulary)
- Speed Sounds and Heart Words to practise
- Speed Words (decodable words with the focus grapheme/s) to practise. This page can be photocopied and used as a single-word fluency activity or used to sort words according to the number of graphemes.

STAGE  
6

How to enjoy this book

The Little Learners Love Literacy® stories are written for beginner readers. They enable children to practise their phonic skills through reading. Each stage is carefully sequenced to give children confidence and success.

Encourage children to decode (sound out) any unfamiliar words. To do this, children point to each letter or digraph, saying the sounds; for example, s-t-o-p or sh-a-d then blend the sounds together to say the word.

Encourage children to break long words into syllables. For example, the word *fantastic* has three syllables. Children decode Fa-n (read fan) then decode t-a-s (read tas) then decode t-i-c (read tic). Children then run their finger under the whole word and read *fantastic*.

**Teaching focus**  
Digraphs: **ck sh ch th ng**

**Quack** focuses on the digraph *ck* representing /k/. This story has words with one syllable, such as *quack*, words with two syllables, such as *bucket* and *hammock* and a compound word, *sundeck*.

**Heart words:** These are words that children need to 'learn by heart' as they cannot decode them at this stage. As children develop more knowledge of the alphabetic code, these words will become decodable. Only the new heart words are listed.

**Speed sounds:** Children point to each sound and read it. Make sure children use pure sounds, that is without an 'uh'. Refer to the Little Learners Love Literacy® Teacher Resource for further guidance.

**Questions to talk about:** After children have read the book, it is important to talk about the questions and enjoy the story together. These questions help with comprehension and vocabulary. If they wish, children can refer to the book when answering the questions.

**Speed words:** This word list gives children practice reading words with *ck*. Encourage children to use decoding as their strategy until they can read the word automatically. Repeated reading practice will increase fluency and automaticity. When writing, it is important for children to know that *ck* always follows a short vowel sound.

**Heart words**

o'clock   ball   keep   playing   Mrs   seen ← **Heart Words**

**Speed sounds**

Mm	Ss	Ff	Aa	Pp	Tt	Cc	Ii	Bb	Hh	Nn	Oo	Dd	Gg
Ll	Vv	Yy	Rr	Ee	Qq	Uu	Zz	Jj	Kk	Xx	Ww		
ll	ss	ff	ck										

← **Speed Sounds**

**Questions to talk about**

- What were Mum and Dad doing on such a hot day?
- Why did Tim run off to the rocks?
- What was the name of the little black duck?
- Find the word that means the same as 'shy' (timid)
- Why do you think Flapjack came back to Pip and Tim's?

← **Comprehension questions**

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## Stage 1 My cat Tip

Lower stage = a familiar layout (illustration on one page and text opposite)

Engaging illustrations →



Tip is my cat.

Heart Word

Short, simple sentence

Decodable words (using m f s a t i c)

## Stage 6 The Munch Bunch Fun Park

Higher stages = varied layouts



Up crept a little witch.  
 "Have you come for a chat?"  
 said Tim.  
 "Yes!" said the witch.  
 "Have a chip," said Mum.

High repetition of focus graphemes ch and tch representing the /ch/ sound

I have some witch lunch in my bucket.

Speech bubble

## Stage 7.4 A Strange Tale

Chapters →

### CHAPTER 5 Tim Investigates



Later, Tim and Dad went down the lane to investigate.

Tim gazed right down into the blank space of the grate and saw a

→ strange thing...

... the raggy tail from an old toy cat!

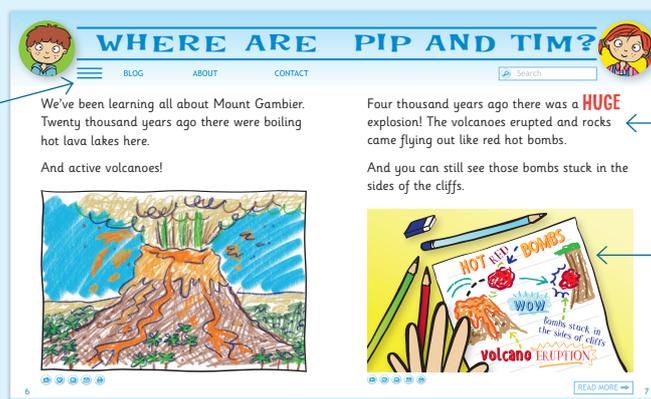


High repetition of focus graphemes a and a-e representing the long /ā/ sound

Varied layouts and fonts →

## Stage 7.5 Volcanoes, Big Things and Pelicans

Varied formats and text types, such as 'blog post' layout



### WHERE ARE PIP AND TIM?

BLOG ABOUT CONTACT

Search

We've been learning all about Mount Gambier. Twenty thousand years ago there were boiling hot lava lakes here.

And active volcanoes!



Four thousand years ago there was a **HUGE** explosion! The volcanoes erupted and rocks came flying out like red hot bombs.

And you can still see those bombs stuck in the sides of the cliffs.



Nonfiction content

Varied illustration styles, including artwork 'drawn' by the characters

# Little Learners Love Literacy® stages and decodable books

**1** the The my My I Mm Ss Ff Aa Pp Tt Cc It

Pip and Tim

The Wiz Kids

Little Learners BIG WORLD

**2** the The my My I Bb Hh Nn Oo Dd Gg Ll Vv

Pip and Tim

The Wiz Kids

Little Learners BIG WORLD

**3** he she we to do was Yy Rr Ee Qu qu Zz

Pip and Tim

The Wiz Kids

Little Learners BIG WORLD

4

her of are too for see

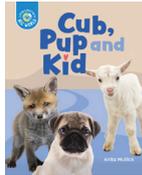
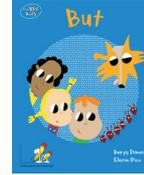
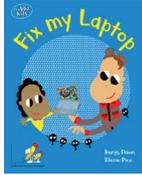
Jj Uu Kk Xx Ww

-s suffix

Pip and Tim

The Wiz Kids

Little Learners BIG WORLD



+4

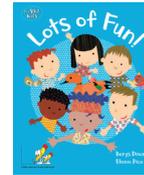
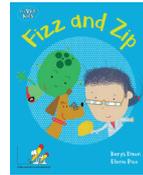
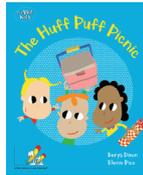
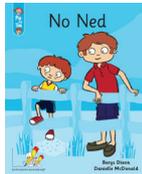
ss ll ff

-s, -es suffix

Pip and Tim

The Wiz Kids

Little Learners BIG WORLD



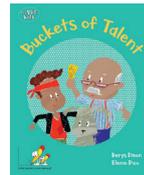
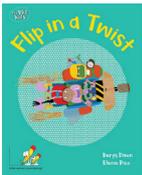
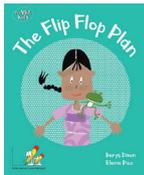
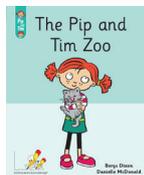
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ck adjacent consonants

Pip and Tim

The Wiz Kids

Little Learners BIG WORLD



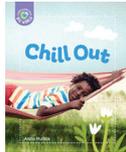
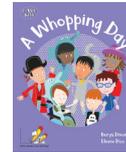
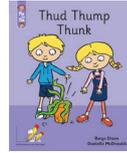
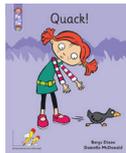
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Pip and Tim

The Wiz Kids

Little Learners BIG WORLD

sh ch tch th ng ph wh

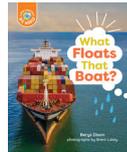
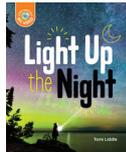
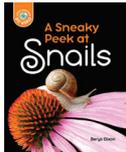
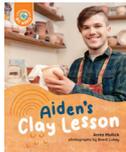


7.1

Pip and Tim

Little Learners BIG WORLD

ai ay ee ea \_y igh ie \_y oa

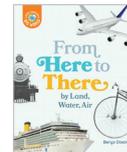
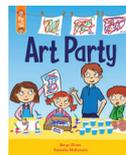


7.2

Pip and Tim

Little Learners BIG WORLD

ar or aw ir ur er air

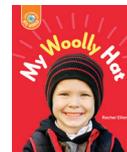
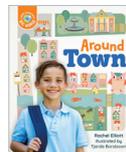


7.3

Pip and Tim

Little Learners BIG WORLD

oo le ow ou oi oy oo

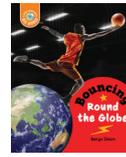


## 7.4

a a-e i i-e e-e e o o-e ow u-e ew ue ui u

Pip  
and  
Tim

Little Learners  
BIG WORLD



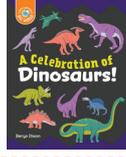
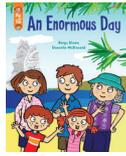
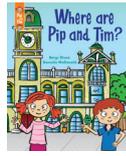
## 7.5

Phonemes /ear/, /lurel/, /zh/  
Suffixes -ed -ure -ous -ion

Alternative graphemes for short vowels and /sh/, /lj/, /er/, /leel/

Pip  
and  
Tim

Little Learners  
BIG WORLD



## Frequently asked questions

### How do I choose decodable books for my learners?

First, consider what children have been taught through the phonics teaching sequence. The teaching sequence and the decodable book content must match up, so that children can always sound out and blend the words in the book. Decodable books are a tool for application and practice of skills and knowledge taught.

There are three formal assessments in the Little Learners Love Literacy® program. Together, these tools identify the progress and skill level of each child, and will show you the stage at which each child is reading.

Finally, when choosing decodable books, it is also important to make sure they are engaging, quality stories or nonfiction.

### How should I use my decodable books?

These 'no-tricks' books are perfect for home reading practice as well as small-group reading sessions in school. Ideally, children will read each book more than once to improve their fluency (accuracy, speed and intonation) – crucial for achieving mastery.

You can use decodable books in small groups to provide evidence-based reading instruction to support children towards reading the book independently. Refer to our *Small Group Reading Teacher Notes*, or visit our website, for more information.

Once children have read the book with you at school, the book can be sent home for children to enjoy with their parents or carers.

Our *Home Reading Journals* for Foundation and Year 1 support parents and teachers to use decodable books at home

### How can I access Little Learners eBooks?

Pip and Tim and The Wiz Kids (Stages 1–4) books are available as apps to download from the Apple App store and Google Play store. Our eBooks have audio and recording functionality – great for fluency!



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Find out more: [littlelearnersloveliteracy.com.au](http://littlelearnersloveliteracy.com.au)

Or contact the Little Learners team: [hello@learninglogic.com.au](mailto:hello@learninglogic.com.au)