

About the program *OzRead and Spell*

This Australian innovation is unique.

It is a simple half-hour over-view of the English writing system and what it helps to understand in learning to read and spell. It is to watch-at-home, for individual self-help and independent learning.

It began because I found that so many failing learners had nothing wrong with them except confusion and gaps in understanding.

The aim is to prevent and clear up these confusions.

It shows how the written language is linked with the spoken language. It demonstrates *HOW TO* learn, to help you understand spelling and a quick way to learn to read.

It helps beginners with 'advance-organizers' for the job ahead.

It is an aid to courses, diagnoses and research, and a help for teachers, whose vital work is to inspire, and to build on this basic learning.

It is only half an hour, and can be watched and watched again so that it becomes familiar. It uses cartoon video with animated text, songs and story, to read for meaning from the start, with analytic and synthetic phonics and whole word learning too. The graphics simplify what is complex. It makes print interesting and important

Nobody fails if they don't like it or it does not help them. And they may find they have long-term benefit from it after all.

It is for 'organic' learning according to everyone's individual style.

It does not have to be learned step-by-step before going on to the next step. It is both top-down and bottom-up. Every feature has been carefully thought out, including a variety of styles to distinguish different parts of it. Children aged three can enjoy the early parts; adults learning literacy may pick up where they have gaps even at the beginning.

The goal is that video and DVDs can be freely available for all learners, for self-help and for aid in courses, freely copiable, and on-line to be down-loaded.

It is still experimental, and can be greatly improved. Eventually many different versions for different needs and abilities can be made by top artists - and win awards as works of art. Learners deserve the best.

CREDITS

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ABC GO! Self-help to read and spell

or find out where you got stuck ©

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Experimental version 1. 1982.

Robert Gordon, Aberdeen University Department of Psychology, Anne Fleck, the London Times

Version 2. 1993.

The Telematics Trust, Andrew Nelson, Bruce Bateman, Alan Clark, Judith Reyne, Greg Robinson, Nick Walker, Terry Lane, Chris Davidson, Daryl Evans, Gloria Parker, Sister Rosemary Lorenz, Marianne Bakeup, Andy Hook

Version 3. 1999,

Australian Broadcasting Commission staff, Lindesay Dresdon, Rick Stone, Tony Tyrer, Bruce McCubbery, Dianna Chapman, Marcus Herman, Jonathan O'Donnell, Rhonda Smithies

Version 4. 2000. Simon Fergusson, Laurie Dacey

Version 5. 2003. Jane Yule, Jill Sanguinetti, Patrick Anderson

Version 6. 2003. Open Channel.

Version 10. 2004. Robyn Williams