

# KIDZ BOOK HUB NEWSLETTER

## What's new at Kidz Book Hub

*November 2016*

### Launch of *Rhythmic Play*

We will shortly be launching *Rhythmic Play*, a series that explores the use of rhymes, chants, songs and dances in the early years classroom. The series comprises six beautifully illustrated student books and an accompanying Teacher's Guide. Dr Pat Smith, author of the series, is a specialist in early childhood education and early literacy. Pat writes:

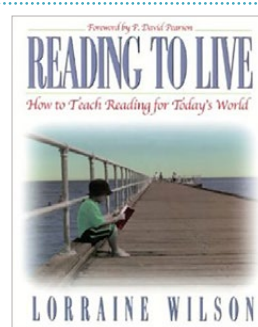


The interest that teachers are showing in teaching poetry is a joy to me. *Rhythmic Play* introduces tried and true ideas that have worked in the past. Indeed, many of the chants, musical games and poems have served generations and survived the test of time.

It all began when I was using rhymes, chants, songs and poems at the beginning of large-print, shared reading sessions a happy way to start the literacy block every morning. I soon realised that the musical quality of these texts was often the key to their enjoyment. And they were so easy to teach! You do not have to be a trained music teacher to teach children about rhythm and beat, and to explore other musical qualities, such as accent, form, tone and colour. Why not use the student's natural instinct for rhythm and their love of rhyme and word-play to engage in the musicality of poetry? Anyone can do it!

### Reading to live

Lorraine Wilson is the author of our City Kids and Country Kids titles, now available on the Kidz Book Hub website. Lorraine's popular teacher reference *Reading to Live: How to Teach Reading for Today's World* (Heinemann, Portsmouth, NH)



was first published in the United States in 2002, but it is as relevant as ever. Here are some inspiring quotes from the book, selected by Lorraine:

In all our planning for literacy in schools, we must remember that we do not learn to read, to read: we learn to read to do other things (p. 108)

There are many reasons we want children to love literature ... through the lives of book characters we want them to learn about their own lives and the lives of others. (p. 147)

I find it hard to conceive how teachers who do not read literature, who do not enjoy reading, could develop children who are passionate about books, about authors, about literature. (p. 149)

Reading and writing are inextricably intertwined. To say that every time a child writes that child is reading, is to say the obvious. Likewise every time a child reads, that child is learning about writing ... in fact, reading nourishes writing. (p. 169)





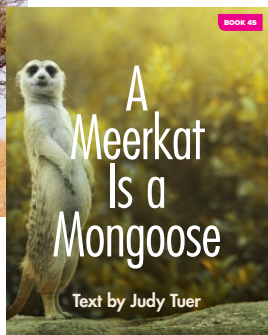
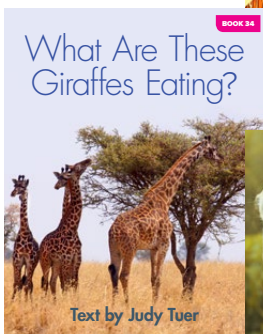
### Keywords for Kids

Judy Tuer has written 50 titles in our sight words program, Keywords for Kids. Ten of these have so far been uploaded to the Kidz Book Hub website, and more are coming soon. The books work sequentially; students progress through the program from Book 1 to Book 50.

At the end of each book there is a page for parents and teachers explaining how to use it effectively. It lists the particular Keywords that are introduced and revised in that particular text.



A unique feature of this series is the audio accompaniment. Voice-overs have recently been recorded and will be uploaded soon.



### KBH SEEKING ILLUSTRATORS

Kidz Book Hub is on the lookout for talented illustrators for a range of early literacy titles. We are particularly interested in artists trying their hand at book illustration for the first time. Please contact Bob Andersen at: [andersenr@abooks.com.au](mailto:andersenr@abooks.com.au)

### Hong Kong Education City buys City Kids titles



Hong Kong Education City is a website sponsored by the government of Hong Kong. It makes literacy materials available at reasonable prices for parents, teachers and students in Hong Kong. It has a proud history of supporting literacy. Titles are selected by a panel of experts.

Ten of Lorraine Wilson's City Kids titles have been chosen for this year's new releases. Congratulations, Lorraine!



## Clancy of the Outback

Phil Kettle, author of our Toocool books, spends a lot his time visiting schools in outback Australia, to talk about writing and encourage young writers. He is particularly popular in the outback regions of Queensland, New South Wales and north-west Australia.

Phil's latest project for Kidz Book Hub is based on his experiences with outback children. He is developing a series about a boy called Clancy who finds himself transported from his comfortable life in the city to an outback station, where he has a lot to learn and sometimes gets in heaps of trouble.

## Pricing policy

**A two-week free trial of the Kidz Book Hub website is available by following the links on the site.**

Our school subscription rate of \$99.95 per annum gives all the teachers and students at a school access to our site, using a single password. Our titles can be viewed online on multiple computers, and, of course, teachers can use data projectors and electronic whiteboards to share them in the classroom.

Our family subscription of \$19.95 per annum gives parents and their children access to the site on their home and personal computers, using a password.



## Audio: it's coming

We have finished recording audio tracks for most of the titles in the City Kids, Country Kids and Keywords series. These will be uploaded to our website progressively over the next few weeks.

## Our advisory panel

**Marilyn Rosenthal**, an expert in teaching English as an additional language, is joining our advisory panel. For more information about the educators and academics on this panel, and to meet the Kidz Book Hub team of authors, illustrators, technicians and managers, please check out the 'About us' page on our website.



**Kidzbookhub:**  
**An exciting web-based literacy product!**