



How Words Work

Whole Programme Scope & Sequence

2026 Edition
January

Supporting the needs of all learners,
including those with reading
and writing challenges.



How Words Work

Scope and Sequence – Edition 1*

	Skill	Details	
Book 1	1.1	Letters and Language Sounds	
	1.2	Short and Long Vowels	
	1.3	Letter Sounds: p s a t i n m d (bed) g o	
	1.4	Letter Sounds: c k	
	1.5	The Kitty Cat Rule	
	1.6	Introduction to (Closed) Syllables	
	1.7	The Short Vowel? Long spelling Rule -ck	
Book 2	2.1	Letter Sounds: e u r h b	
	2.2	Introduction to Silent-e	
	2.3	Letter Sounds: f -ff l -ll -ss and the FLoSS Rule	
	2.4	Introduction to Open Syllables	
	2.5	Introduction to Blends	
	2.6	Nouns and adding Suffix -s	
	2.7	Verb and adding Suffix -s	
	∞	Knowing Stuff About the World	

*Edition 2 will be released in Term 2 of 2026



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	Skill	Details	
Book 3	3.1	Letter Sounds: j v w x y z zz	
	3.2	Alphabet and Spelling Rules Review	
	3.3	Introducing Prefixes un- re- pre-	
	3.4	Digraphs: qu ch sh th ng nk	
	3.5	Short vowel? Long spelling -k/-ck and -ch/-tch	
	3.6	Compound Words	
	3.7	Digraphs Review	
Book 4	4.1	Rain Day ai ay	
	4.2	Double the 'ee' ee	
	4.3	High Night igh	
	4.4	The Boat oa	
	4.5	Long Vowel Review: /ā/, /ē/, /ī/	
	4.6	Boil the Toy oi oy	
	4.7	Food is Good oo = /ū/ and oo = /ʊ/	
	4.8	How Now Brown Cow? ow	
	4.9	Long Vowel Review /ō/, /oi/, /ū/, /ʊ/	
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Skill			Details
Book 5	5.1	Revise 'ai', 'ay' and 'ee'	
	5.2	Revise 'ee' and 'igh'	
	5.3	Revise 'igh' and 'oa'	
	5.4	Spellings for /ā/, /ē/, /ī/ and /ō/	
	5.5	Revise 'oi', 'oy' and 'oo' = /ū/	
	5.6	Revise 'oo' = /ū/ and 'ow'	
	5.7	Spellings for /oi/, /ū/, /ū/ and /ow/	
	5.8	All Book 5 Spellings Review	
	5.9	The Illegal Letters: i j q u v	
	5.10	Short Vowel? Long Spelling -ge/-dge	
Book 6	6.1	Born in the Barn or ar	
	6.2	Prefixes in- im-	
	6.3	Bear on the Chair air ear	
	6.4	Her Burn er ur	
	6.5	Long Vowel Review ow or air ear	
	6.6	End Sounds -er and -ure	
	6.7	Introducing Bases -rupt-	
	6.8	Long Vowel Review ar er ur er ure	
	6.9	The Tall Troll was so Full, he Fell -all -oll -ull -ell	
	6.10	Shushy Sounds -s -es	
	6.11	Contracted Words A	
	6.12	Compound Words Review	
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Book 7	7.1	Word Stories	
	7.2	Reading CVCC and Silent-e (a_e)	
	7.3	Proper Nouns and Listing Commas	
	7.4	Reading CCVC and Silent-e (e_e)	
	7.5	Base -struct-	
	7.6	Reading CCVCC and Silent-e (i_e)	
	7.7	Identifying Nouns and Verbs	
	7.8	Reading CCCV and Silent-e (o_e)	
	7.9	'An' or 'A'? and Suffix -'s	
	7.10	Reading CCCVC and Silent-e (u_e)	
	7.11	Homophones vs Homonyms	
	7.12	The Crazy Things Our Parents Say	
	7.13	Prefix super-	
	7.14	-ck, -tch, -dge Review (FROM 5a)	
	7.15	Contracted Words B	
Book 8	8.1	The Suffix -est and -er	
	8.2	The Suffix -ing	
	8.3	The Suffix -ed	
	8.4	Prefixes sub- dis-	
	8.5	The Cart is Fast ar vs. a	
	8.6	Cry Baby: Final y = /ē/ or / ī /	
	8.7	Marve: Final /v/ = 've'	
	8.8	Huggles: Final /l/ = 'le'	
	8.9	Base -geo-	
	8.10	CVC Doubling Rule	
	8.11	Dropping Silent-e Rule	
	8.12	Crazy Things Our Parents Say	
	8.13	Would've, Could've, Should've 'oo' & 'oul' = /ū/	
	8.14	Finishing Mog and Gom with help (55-63)	
	8.15	Base -bio-	
	8.16	Finishing Mog and Gom with help (64-72)	
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	Skill	Details	
Book 9 - TOTEM	9.1	The Schwa Sound /ə/ (b', d', r')	
	9.2	Open/Closed Syllable Words	
	9.3	Prefix micro-	
	9.4	Base -port-	
	9.5	True Blue ue	
	9.6	Able to Sail Away ai ay a. a_e	
	9.7	She has Sweet Dreams ee ea e. -y -ey	
	9.8	The Boat is So Slow oa ow o. o_e oe	
	9.9	The Crazy Things Our Parents Say	
	9.10	Base -tract-	
	9.11	Her Bird is Hurt er ir ur	
	9.12	Loud Cow ow ou	
	9.13	Night Pie igh -y -i- i_e	
	9.14	A Few for Stew oo u. u_e ew	
	9.15	Spelling Suffix -s and -es words	
Book 10 - ALBA	10.1	Prefix tele-	
	10.2	Extended /air/ air ear are ere	
	10.3	Draw a Fork through Sauce or aw au	
	10.4	Final -ce and -se	
	10.5	Phone Whiz wh ph	
	10.6	Bases -phon- and -photo-	
	10.7	Reading Silent Letters A kn gn wr mb	
	10.8	The Crazy Things Our Parents Say	
	10.9	Prefix auto-	
	10.10	Gentle Cindy ge gi gy = /j/; ce ci cy = /s/	
	10.11	Homophones B	
	10.12	Base -astr-	
	10.13	Contracted Words C	
	10.14	Base Word Review	
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	Skill	Details	
Book 11 - TALISMAN	11.1	Bases -hydr- and -aqua-	
	11.2	/e/ Extended e ea	
	11.3	Prefixes semi- multi-	
	11.4	/ā/ Extended ai ay a_e a ea -ey	
	11.5	/ē/ Extended ee ea e_e -y ie ei -ey e	
	11.6	To Double or Not to Double (Extended Doubling Rule)	
	11.7	Suffixes -ly -less -ful	
	11.8	/ō/ Extended oa oe o_e ow o	
	11.9	/er/ Extended ur ir er or	
	11.10	The Crazy Things Our Parents Say	
	11.11	Boil the Toy Reprise oi oy	
	11.12	Loud Cow Reprise ow ou	
	11.13	Finishing Talisman with Help 6-10	
	11.14	The W Effect	
	11.15	Base -grad-	
Book 12 – RESCUE SERIES	12.1	Bases -vis- and -spec(t)-	
	12.2	Unusual Vision su, si = /zh/	
	12.3	Prefixes mis- non-	
	12.4	Suffixes -er -or -ist	
	12.5	The Return of Illegal Letter 'i'! The 'y' to 'i' Rule	
	12.6	/ū/ Extended oo ew ue u_e	
	12.7	/ī/ Extended igh ie i_e -y i	
	12.8	The Crazy Things Our Parents Say	
	12.9	/or/ Extended or aw au ore al ar	
	12.10	Bases -scribe- and -graph-	
	12.11	Then vs. Than	
	12.12	/ar/ Extended	
	12.13	Prefixes uni- mono- bi- tri-	
	12.14	Base Word Review	
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Book 13 – Island Adventure	1	Prefixes con- com- inter-	
	2	Base -chron-	
	3	Eat Bread with Steak – the 3 sounds of 'ea'	
	4	New Zealand Culture	
	5	The Schwa Vowel Again /ə/	
	6	Reading Silent Letters B	
	7	That Crazy i before e Spelling Rule ie ei	
	8	Unusual Plurals	
	9	Vocabulary A	
	10	Suffixes -ness -ment	
	11	The Crazy Things Our Parents Say	
	12	Base -metr-	
	13	/air/ Extended are ere eir eer	
	14	/ar/ Extended ar a al	
Book 14 – Hidden in Paris	1	Cheeky Christmas Chef – the 3 sounds of 'ch'	
	2	Spellings for /ū/ u ue u_e	
	3	Base -therm-	
	4	Spellings for /u/ o u ou	
	5	Spellings for /s/ s ss se c ce	
	6	Spellings for /l/ l -ll -le -al	
	7	Vocabulary B	
	8	Spellings for /j/ j g -ge	
	9	Prefixes ex- fore- pro-	
	10	Spellings for /f/ f -ff ph	
	11	Suffix -(t)ure	
	12	Suffixes -tion -sion -cian - keep as it was	
	13	Suffixes -(c)ial -(t)ial	
	14	The Crazy Things Our Parents Say	
	15	Prefix trans-	
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Skill		Details
Books 15 & 16		
		These
		books
		have
		not
		been
		finalised
		yet