

## Spinout Stories

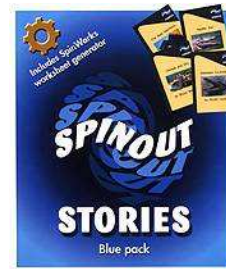
### Literacy resources for older students with reading difficulties

*Spinout Stories* are collections of high interest stories and related activities especially designed to appeal to upper primary and lower secondary students who are still struggling with literacy.

Each story is available at three levels of reading difficulty, to suit a wide range of students.

- Topics to suit older “early” readers
- There are two topics in each pack.
- Each topic offers two stories of different styles.

Some stories are fictional, some are informative. Some are both. All are designed to grab the attention of reluctant readers.



Years 5 to 9

Pack	Story	Topic	Style
Blue	Diesels and Dirt	large machines	information
	The Best Mechanic	large machines	fiction
	Saltwater Crocodiles	crocodiles	information
	Reptile Zoo	crocodiles	narrative
Red	Gorilla Gang	dreams	fiction
	Dream to stay alive	dreams	information
	Shark Ride Bay	surfing	fiction
	Surf Shop	surfing	narrative

### Enrichment reading

Clicking on key words gives access to Spinout’s powerful hypertext facility, which encourages students to follow up more details of the story. This encourages students to read more and more in order to obtain information beyond the basic text of the main story.

For example, clicking on “trucks” (or on the truck in the picture) opens a new window of text that gives more detailed information about trucks. This text offers further links to words such as “engine” and “tray”, giving even more leads for students to follow their particular interests and encouraging them to read more adventurously.

### Read it, hear it, write it, print it!

The computer can read all the story text aloud (with an Australian accent). It can also help students check their own reading by saying individual words (in a different voice) upon request.

Students can use Spinout’s facilities to write their own version of a story and print it, complete with all the illustrations, in black and white or colour.

### Full colour books

The Spinout stories are supplied in book form as well as on CD. Extra copies are available: contact **LEARN**, for details.



## Extra skill-building exercises

Each CD contains related reading activities, based on the text of the stories on the CD. The activities are designed to develop students' basic skills and to give them confidence in reading and understanding. All the exercises have been carefully designed by experienced teachers.

Pack	Exercise	Activity
Blue	Jigsaw	word recognition
	Concentration	word recognition
	Word Ladders	building vocabulary
Red	Cloze	reading with comprehension
	Wordsquare	word recognition
	Quiz	comprehension

## Meeting individual needs

Using the Teacher Controls, Spinout Stories can be set up to meet the needs of individual students. Level of difficulty, fonts, special needs requirements and availability of printing are just some of the options that can be set.

The teacher can also check a log of the time each student spends on each activity to help identify an individual's strengths and possible weaknesses.

## Bonus package

Also included in each pack is a copy of Spinworks, a powerful teacher's helper that turns any of the Spinout Stories, PM Story Books, Fitzroy Talking Readers or any text file into a set of worksheets in seconds.

**Format:** CD for Windows and Mac