

Little Book of Answers Programme Overview



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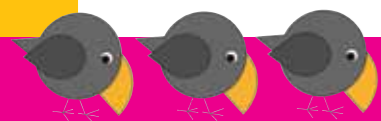
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What Are the Little Book of Answers?

The *Little Book of Answers* are a set of 60 levelled factual books relating to science and social studies topics.

Why Are They Called Little Book of Answers?

The title of each book is a question. The reader finds the answer or answers to that question as they read the book.



What Are the Topics?

Social Studies

Science

Reading Level	Families Celebrations	History Customs	Economics Technology	Personal Responsibility Citizenship	Environmental Issues	Earth Geography	Weather Space	Animals	Plants	Energy Matter	Reading Level
A	Who Is This?	Who Lives Here?	Why Is It Expensive?	Why Should I Eat Fruit?	When Does This Tree Grow Best?	Where Am I?	Where Is This Astronaut?	When Is This a Home?	What Do Plants Need?	How Do I Move?	A
B	Why Are You Having a Party?	When Do I Go to School?	Where Do Big Machines Work?	What Keeps Me Healthy?	Who Can Save Power?	What Is a Natural Resource?	What Is Weather?	Where Do Big Cats Live?	How Many Parts Do Dinosaurs Have?	What Goes Fastest?	B
C	How Many Pets Do You Have?	Where Did My Grandparents Come From?	Who Works Here?	When Can I Help in the Classroom?	What Makes the Air Dirty?	Why Do You Live Here?	When Did American Astronauts Explore Space?	Who Has Ears Like These?	Where Do Tall Trees Grow?	Who Uses That Machine?	C
D	What Holidays Do You Have?	Why Do We Celebrate?	How Can You Use a Computer?	Where Can I Find a Good Friend?	How Can You Re-Use an Egg Carton?	When Can a Flood Happen?	Who Listens to the Weather Forecast?	What Do Animals Eat?	When Do Trees Look Different?	Why Does This Boat?	D
E	When Do You Sleep?	What Things Did Your Parents Play With?	When Did People Start to Count?	How Can I Get Fit?	Why Are Polar Bears in Danger?	Who Lives Near the North Pole?	Why Does the Moon Look Different?	How Can You Group Animals?	Why Can Plants Grow in the Desert?	Where Can You Find Hard and Soft Things?	E
F	Where Can You Eat This Food?	How Did the Yikings Come to Canada?	What Can You Buy at the Mall?	Who Should Follow These Signs?	Where Does Used Paper Go?	How Are Oceans and Lakes Alike?	How Can You Measure Rain and Wind?	Why Do You Change in Winter?	Who Eats Who in a Food Chain?	When Does Water Turn into Ice?	F



What Kinds of Questions Do the Little Book of Answers Ask?

The *Little Book of Answers* ask closed and open-ended questions. Each book in a theme starts with a different question word, *Who, What, Why, Where, When, How*.



Weather /Space Theme

Each level also has a book starting with each of these words. Because there are ten books at each level, the extra four books ask questions that best suit the title.



Level D

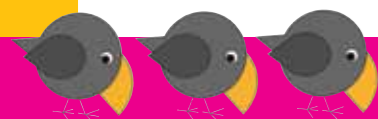
What Philosophy Underpins the Little Book of Answers?

We believe that it is vital for students to learn how to ask and answer questions in their quest for knowledge. The sooner that students learn this important skill, the more knowledge they will know how to access.

Are the Little Book of Answers Research-Based and Field Tested?

Yes. The *Little Book of Answers* are based on the vast body of research into the teaching of comprehension and the teaching of vocabulary to aid comprehension. Research also tells us that the ability of people to think critically is what ultimately differentiates one nation from another. We believe that the best time for an education system to start the critical-thinking process is when the students first start school.

Field testing is currently underway in beginning school classes in different school settings internationally. Interim results show that even the students with the poorest vocabulary and the fewest literacy skills on entry to school are making excellent progress using the *Little Book of Answers* as part of their regular literacy instruction.



What Science Themes Are Covered by the Little Book of Answers?

Earth and Geography, Weather and Space, Animals, Plants, Energy and Matter.



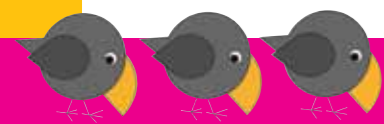
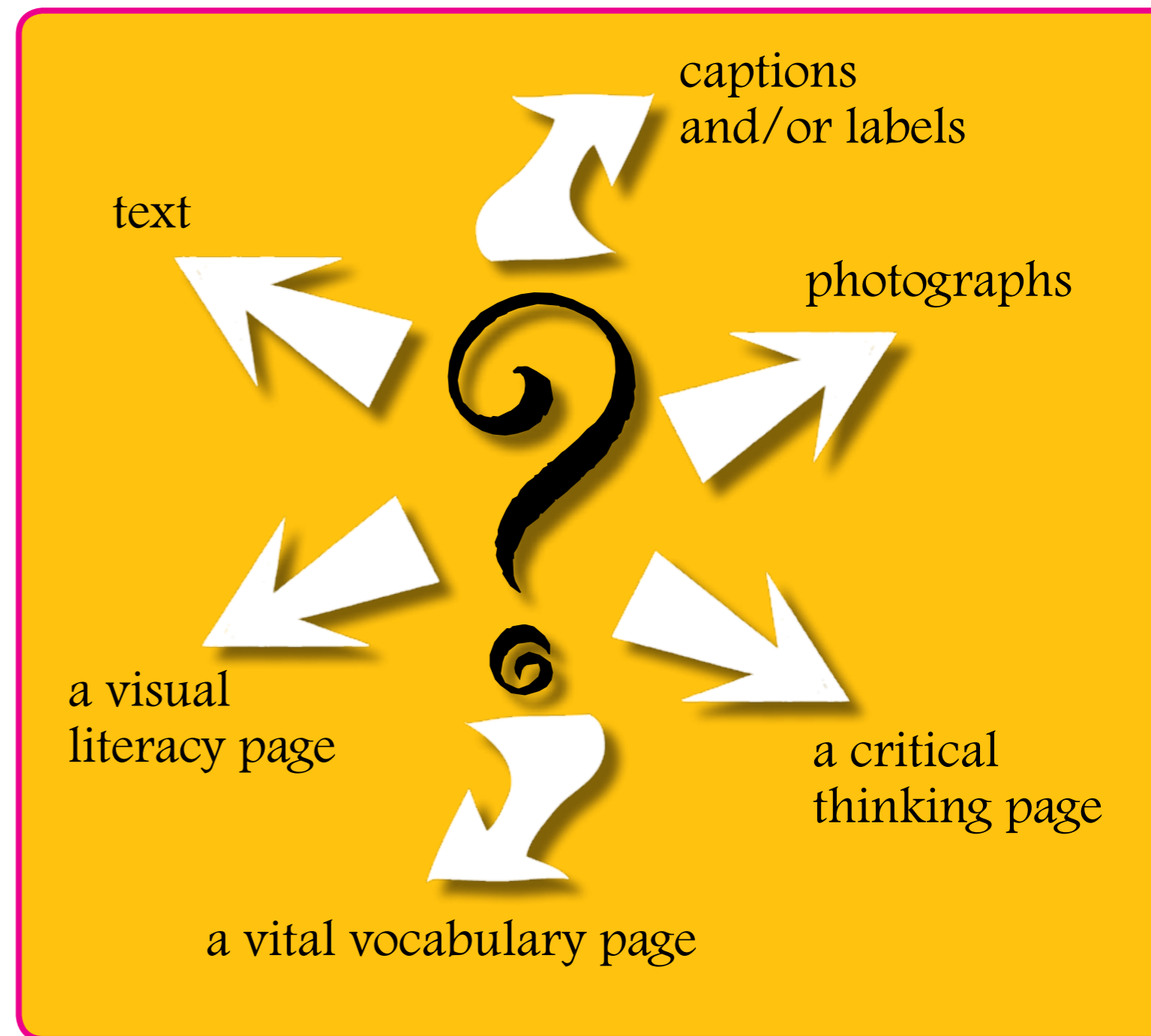
What Social Studies Themes Are Covered by the Little Book of Answers?

Families and Celebrations, History and Customs, Economics and Technology, Personal Responsibility and Citizenship, Environmental Issues.



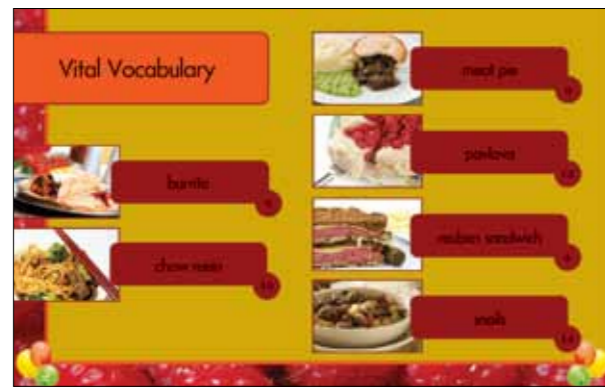
What Are the Main Features of the Little Book of Answers Books?

Each *Little Book of Answers* book answers the question posed in the title through –



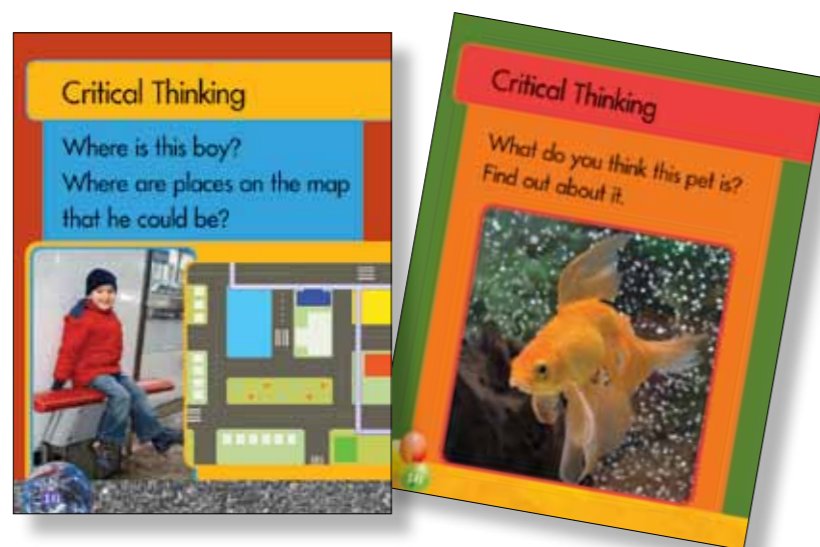
What Is the Vital Vocabulary?

The *Vital Vocabulary* is a picture glossary at the beginning of each book. It introduces the students to some of the essential vocabulary that they will meet as they read the text.



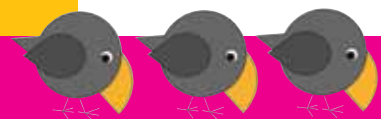
Why Have You Included a Critical Thinking Page?

The *Critical Thinking* page encourages students to use the knowledge they have gained from reading the book to think at a higher level and/or pursue further research into the topic.



What Is on the Visual Literacy Pages?

The *Visual Literacy* pages cover a range of literacy elements including maps, charts, graphs, concept webs, diagrams, tables, time lines.



Can the Little Book of Answers Be Used With Other Series of Books?

Yes. The *Little Book of Answers* series will complement any core reading programme that you currently use. You can use the books to teach, consolidate, and extend both comprehension and vocabulary. Because the themes in the *Little Book of Answers* are universal, the topics fit with any integrated core programme. Look at the titles grid. It shows you how easy it is to fit the *Little Books of Answers* into your main curriculum topics and your instructional reading programme.

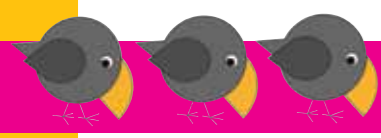





Social Studies					
	Families Celebrations	History Customs	Economics Technology	Personal Responsibility Citizenship	Environmental Issues -
A	Who Is This?	Who Lives Here?	Why Is It Expensive?	Why Should I Eat Fruit?	When Does This Tree Grow Best?
B	Why Are You Having a Party?	When Do I Go to School?	Where Do Big Machines Work?	What Keeps Me Healthy?	Who Can Save Power?
C	How Many Pets Do You Have?	Where Did My Grandparents Come From?	Who Works Here?	When Can I Help in the Classroom?	What Makes the Air Dirty?
D	What Holidays Do You Have?	Why Do We Celebrate?	How Can You Use A Computer?	Where Can I Find a Good Friend?	How Can You Re-Use an Egg Carton?
E	When Do You Sleep?	What Things Did Your Parents Play With?	When Did People Start to Count?	How Can I Get Fit?	Why Are Polar Bears in Danger?
F	Where Can You Eat This Food?	How Did the Vikings Come to Canada?	What Can You Buy at the Mall?	Who Should Follow These Signs?	Where Does Used Paper Go?

Science					
Environmental Issues -	Earth Geography	Weather Space	Animals	Plants	Energy Matter
When Does This Tree Grow Best?	Where Am I?	Where Is This Astronaut?	When Is This a Home?	What Do Plants Need?	How Do I Move?
Who Can Save Power?	What Is a Natural Resource?	What Is Weather?	Where Do Big Cats Live?	How Many Parts Do Dandelions Have?	What Goes Fastest?
What Makes the Air Dirty?	Why Do You Live Here?	When Did American Astronauts Explore Space?	Who Has Ears Like These?	Where Do Tall Trees Grow?	Who Uses This Machine?
How Can You Re-Use an Egg Carton?	When Can a Flood Happen?	Who Listens to the Weather Forecast?	What Do Animals Eat?	When Do Trees Look Different?	Why Does This Float?
Why Are Polar Bears in Danger?	Who Lives Near the North Pole?	Why Does the Moon Look Different?	How Can You Group Animals?	Why Can Plants Grow in the Desert?	Where Can You Find Hard and Soft Things?
Where Does Used Paper Go?	How Are Oceans and Lakes Alike?	How Can You Measure Rain and Wind?	Why Do You Change in Winter?	Who Eats Who in a Food Chain?	When Does Water Turn into Ice?



Are the Little Book of Answers Levelled?

Yes. The *Little Book of Answers* are sequentially levelled into six levels following the Fountas and Pinnell levelling system. There are 10 books at each level A - F.



Level A



Level B



Level C

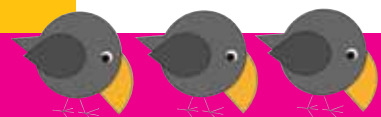
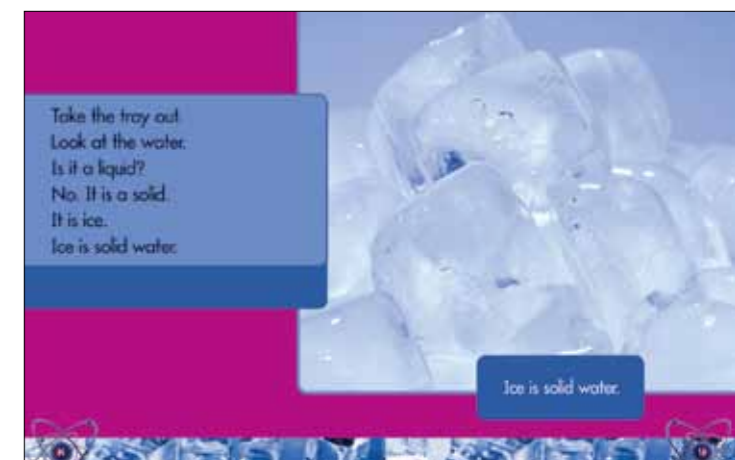
Level D



Level E



Level F



How Can I Tell What Level a Book Is?

The books all have the level on the outside back cover in a levelling strip.



The outside back cover also shows you the other books at that level and the theme.

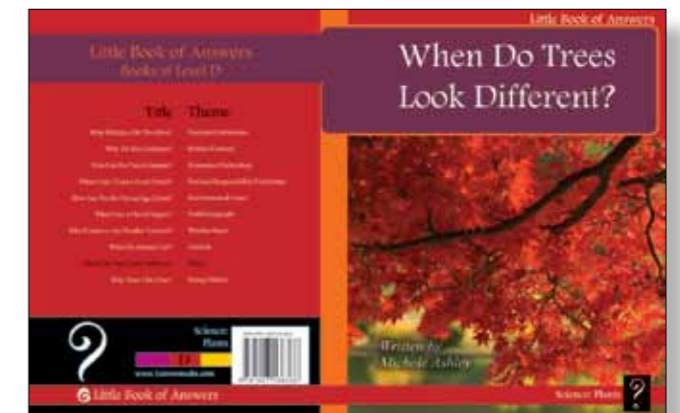


To make for easy recognition, the books are also colour-coded on the front and back covers.

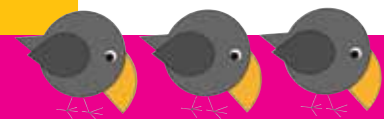
Levels A & B **Magenta**



Levels C & D **Red**



Levels E & F **Yellow**



How Do I Know What Learning Is in Each Book?

You can find the –
 word count
 curriculum connection
 content vocabulary
 visual literacy element
 comprehension strategy
 high-frequency words on the inside back cover of each book.

LITTLE BOOK OF ANSWERS

Level: B Word Count: 44

*word in title, label, or caption, but not in text

Curriculum Connection	Technology
Content Vocabulary	building site, *combine harvester, *crane, *crop duster, landfill, machine, mountain, *payloader, quarry, snow groomer, wheat field, work
Visual Literacy Element	relationship chart
Comprehension Strategy	extracting information
High-Frequency Words	a, big, in, this

Visit our website
WWW.3CROWSMEDIA.COM
 to download free teacher support material.

TECHNOLOGY

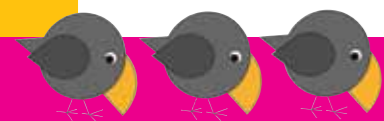
The *Little Book of Answers* series also has a specification grid that shows you the level, the title, the theme, the word count, the comprehension strategy that is the focus for that book, the content words, the high-frequency words, and the visual literacy element. You can view this and download it on-line at www.3crowsmedia.com

Specs Grid Level A

Word count 10 - 40

*content word in title, caption, or label, but not in text

Level	Title	Theme	Word Count	Comprehension Strategy	Vocabulary		Visual Literacy Element
					Content Words	High Frequency Words	
A1	Who Is This?	Family	23	connecting self to text	brother, family, father, mother, sister	is, me, my, this	family tree
A2	Who Lives Here?	Customs	15	connecting self and text to world	Ali, Eva, Femi, *house, Joe, lives, Siva	here	world map
A3	Why Is It Expensive?	Economics	26	connecting text to self	big, *car, *diamond, fast, *house, rare, *ship, sparkly, *stamp	because, is, it	concept web
A4	Why Should I Eat Fruit?	Personal Responsibility	26	hypothesizing	*apple, *banana, crunchy, juicy, *orange, *pineapple, soft, sweet, tasty, *watermelon	because, is, it	photo with labels
A5	When Does This Tree Grow Best?	Environmental Issues	26	identifying cause and effect	cold, cool, dry, *fir, hot, *juniper, *kapok, *mangrove, *maple, *palm, *tree, wet	and, is, it, when	relationship chart
A6	Where Am I?	Geography	30	asking and answering	mall, park, playground,	am, at, I, the	town map



What Is the Little Book of Answers Instructional Model?

We suggest that you use the *Little Book of Answers* with small homogeneous groups as part of your instructional reading programme.



What Skills and Strategies Can I Teach Using the Little Book of Answer Series?

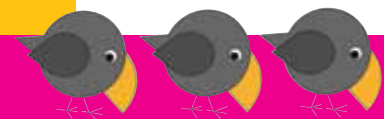
You can use the *Little Book of Answers* to teach –

- emergent and early print concepts
- emergent and early skills and strategies required to read informational text
- common high-frequency words
- grade-appropriate content words
- fluent reading
- beginning writing and spelling skills
- oral discussion and questioning skills

How Long Does a Little Book of Answers Lesson Take?

The answer to this question will depend on the prior knowledge of your students. You will need to spend more time discussing concepts and vocabulary with students who arrive at school with limited knowledge than you will with those students who are knowledgeable and articulate.

Ideally the students could read a book in one instructional reading session with you. They could then complete the writing task and/or the blacklines independently while you work with another group.



What Format Does a Little Book of Answers Lesson Plan Follow?

Each lesson plan has the following sections –

- a *Summary of the Essential Learning*

Lesson Plan

How Do I Move?

Level: A10 Word Count: 30

Little Book of Answers

Curriculum Connection	Energy
Content Vocabulary	bat, cheetah, fish, fly, monkey, penguin, run, slither, snake, swim, swing, waddle,
Visual Literacy Element	relationship chart
Critical Thinking	make an inference from a photo and apply it to self
Comprehension Strategy	applying information
High-Frequency Words	a, am, I

A10 How Do I Move?

Before Reading

Prior Knowledge – Discuss the Topic

- Have students say and demonstrate the different ways they can move.
- Say words such as *jump, hop, roll* and have students demonstrate the movements.
- Discuss which animals they know that move the same way that they do.

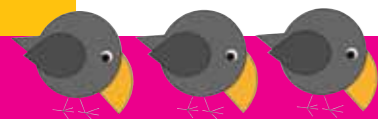
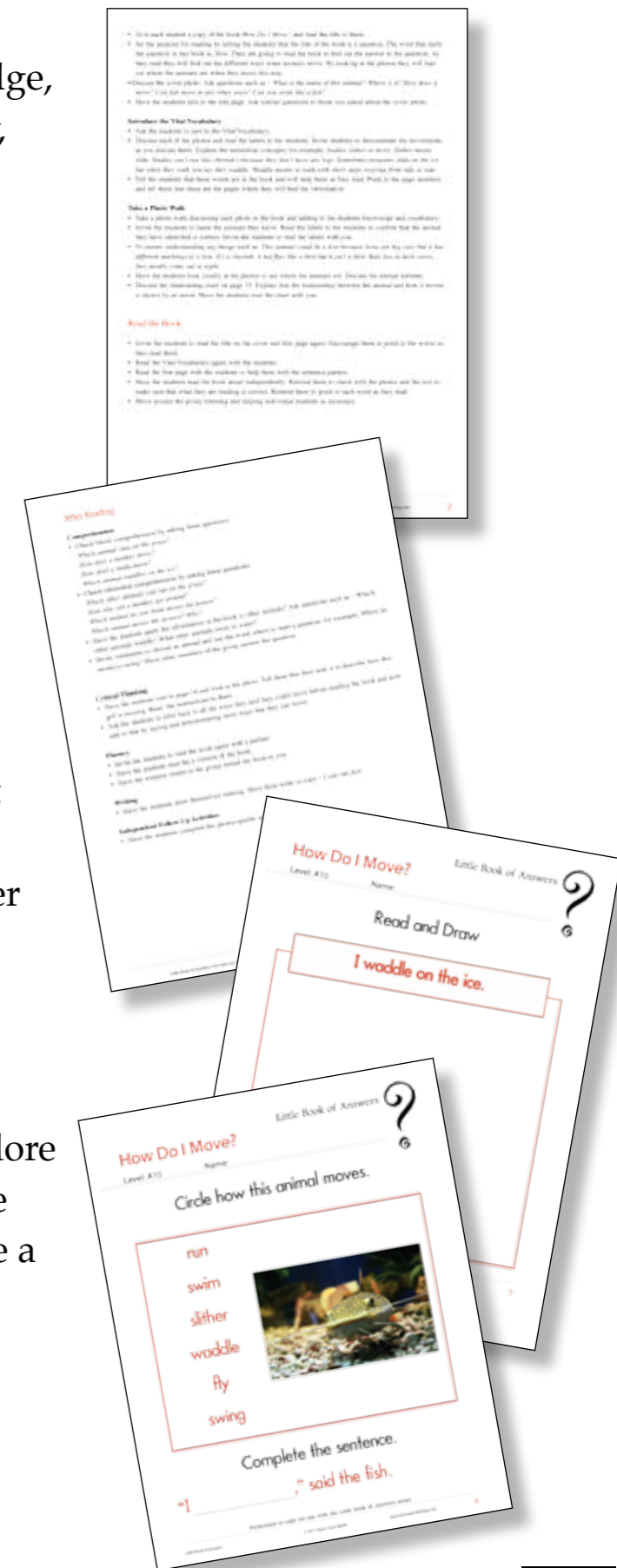
- a *Before Reading* section which includes building prior knowledge, introducing the vital vocabulary, and taking a photo walk

- a *Read the Book* section where the students read the book independently

- an *After Reading* section where you check on literal and inferential comprehension, and that students have understood the comprehension strategy that was the focus of the lesson. You also invite students to ask further questions about the topic

The *After Reading* section also provides for the students to explore the critical thinking aspect of the book, practice fluency, and make a connection to writing

The lesson finishes with the students completing the photocopiable blacklines.



Which Comprehension Strategies Do the Little Book of Answers Target?

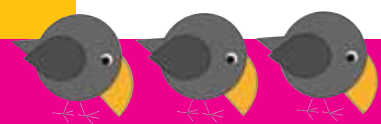
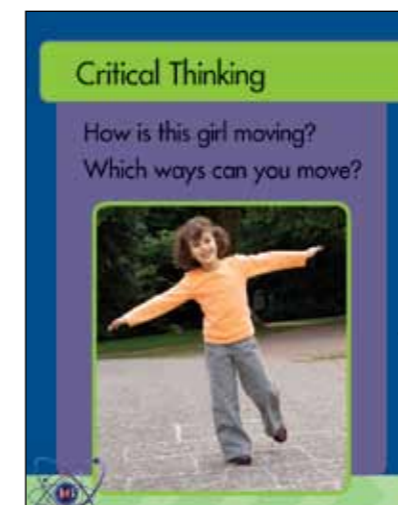
You can teach many comprehension strategies using the *Little Book of Answers* series, but the lesson plans specifically target the following—

LBA Comprehension Strategy by Level

Comprehension Strategy	A	B	C	D	E	F
Applying Knowledge	*	*		*		*
Asking and Answering Questions	*	*	*	*		*
Classifying and Categorizing				*	*	
Comparing and Contrasting			*		*	*
Connecting Self and Text to World	*	*	*			*
Connecting Self to Text	*		*	*	*	*
Connecting Text to Self	*	*			*	
Determining Author Purpose				*		
Extracting Information	*	*	*	*	*	*
Hypothesizing	*		*	*	*	*
Identifying Cause and Effect	*	*		*		*
Making Inferences			*		*	
Predicting	*	*	*			
Recognizing Chronological and Sequential Order		*	*			
Recognizing Factual Text Structures					*	
Responding				*	*	
Setting a Purpose for Reading	*	*				
Summarizing				*		*
Visualizing		*	*		*	*

What Follow-Up or Extension Activities Are Included in the Little Book of Answers Lesson Plans?

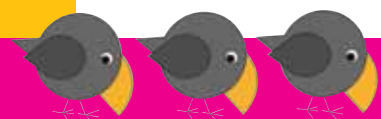
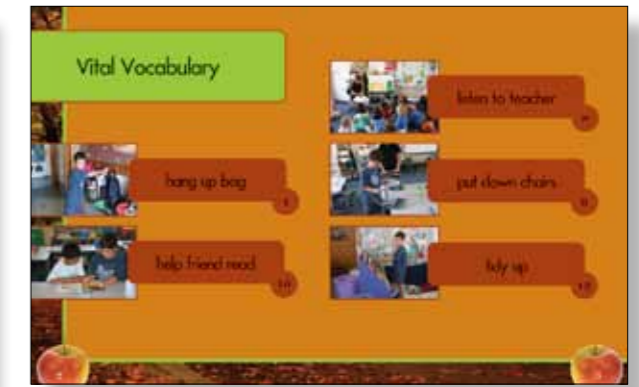
We all know that the best extension activity for reading is more reading. In addition to that, each *Little Book of Answers* has a *Critical Thinking* activity on page 16. Each lesson plan also comes with a connection to writing and two photocopiable masters to consolidate and extend comprehension and vocabulary.



Can I Use the Little Book of Answers With My Struggling Readers?

Yes. The *Little Book of Answers* books are especially appropriate for struggling readers for the following reasons –

- they are sequentially levelled with ten books at each level to provide plenty of opportunities for consolidation before moving to a higher level.
- they teach the important vocabulary up front so that the students recognise and understand these words before meeting them in the body of the text.
- the photos match the text to provide further assistance for decoding and comprehension.
- the photos have labels to further assist with vocabulary acquisition.
- there are further visual literacy elements designed to help struggling readers interpret the text.
- the lesson plans make the connection between talking and reading, and reading and writing. Connecting these three elements of literacy helps struggling readers put the process together.



Can I Use the Little Books of Answers With My ELL Students?

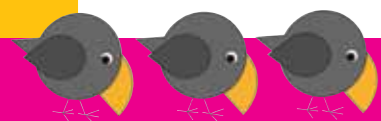
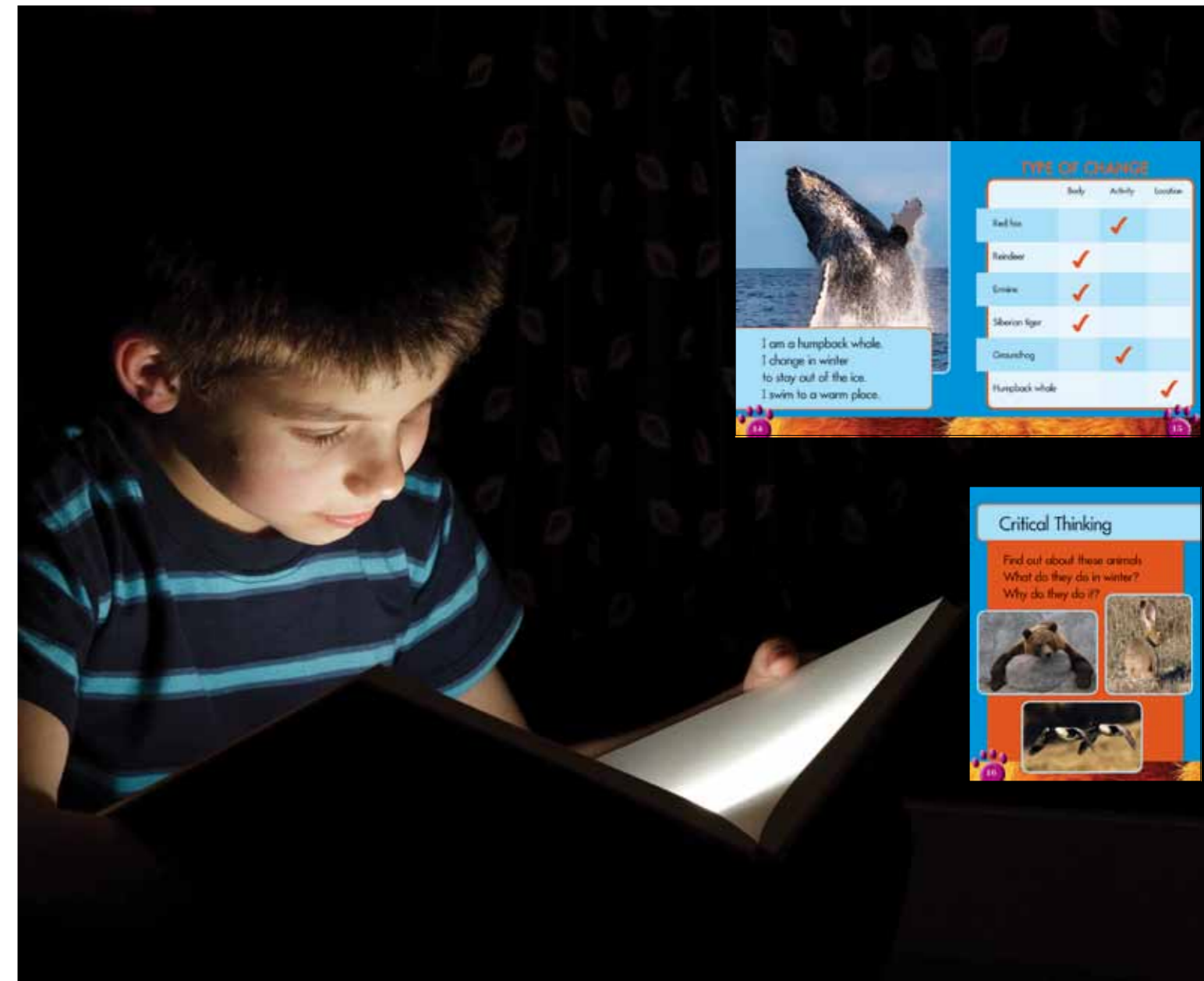
Yes. The *Little Books of Answers* are particularly appropriate for ELL students for the following reasons –

- the content vocabulary for the book is contained in the title, the Vital Vocabulary page, and in the captions and arrowed labels. This means that ELL students meet all the content vocabulary before they have to read the text.
- the *Little Books of Answers* books contain straightforward English language structures
- the sentences are short
- the text patterns are repeated within the books
- the vocabulary is repeated within the books
- labels identify items in the photos



Do the Little Books of Answers Work for My Gifted Students?

Yes. There are many opportunities in the *Little Books of Answers* to extend your more able students.



Social Studies

Science

Reading Level	Families Celebrations	History Customs	Economics Technology	Personal Responsibility Citizenship	Environmental Issues	Earth Geography	Weather Space	Animals	Plants	Energy Matter	Reading Level
A											A
B											B
C											C
D											D
E											E
F											F



Little Book of Answers

