Appendix E: Storybook features



The Spotty Sock Mystery

(Setting: home, Themes: family, daily life)*

LANGUAGELIFT TARGETS	OTHER LANGUAGE FEATURES
story part focus: who	home nouns: laundry, bedroom
Treasure Words: mystery	family relation nouns: Dad, sister
pronouns: his, her	adjectives: special, spotty, red
e.g., his socks, her teddy	feeling adjectives: puzzled
connectors: and	action verbs: ran, searched, drove, emptied
e.g., Felix has one sock and his sister has the other sock.	thinking verbs: thought, remembered
	suffix 's' (plural): socks, pegs
	suffix 's' (possession): Dad's, Teddy's

^{*}This book can also be used to explore Theory of Mind



Nina the Snail Does Not Like Her Greens

(Setting: garden, Themes: identity, change)

LANGUAGELIFT TARGETS	OTHER LANGUAGE FEATURES
story part focus: who	garden nouns: snail, veggie patch, leaves, soil, tomato, lettuce,
Treasure Words: gobbled	spinach, carrot
pronouns: her	adjectives: colourful, delicious, amazing, scrumptious
e.g., her shell	feeling adjectives: furious, queasy, lonely
sentences: who + action + object e.g., Nina ate a (big red) tomato.	prepositional phrases: behind some leaves, next to the eggplant, under the soil
	action verbs: munched, devoured, smelled, approached
	thinking verbs: decided, thought
	feeling verbs: like, love, loathe, hate
	negation: does not, don't



A Most Unusual Pig

(Setting: farm, Themes: identity, individuality)

story part focus: where Treasure Words: unusual suffix 's': 3rd person singular present tense e.g., purrs, brays, oinks, clucks, moos action verbs: brushed, shook, twitched, thumped saying verbs: clucked, brayed, meowed, oinked negation: could not figurative language: 'as still as a stone' onomatopoeia / alliteration: 'tip-tapping', 'tingled and tickled', 'lovely, long, loud la-laaah', animal sounds (e.g., buzz, meow)



Bessie the Bilby Needs a Friend

(Setting: Australian bush, Themes: loneliness, friendship)

LANGUAGELIFT TARGETS

story part focus: where **Treasure Words:** lonely

negation: not

e.g., He was not like her at all.

connectors: but

e.g., She met a kookaburra, but he

didn't have long ears.

sentences: who + action + where e.g., Bessie lives in a burrow.

OTHER LANGUAGE FEATURES

Australian animal nouns (in text): bilby, goanna, echidna, platypus, kookaburra, eagle

Australian animal nouns (pictured): kangaroos, mice, dingoes, thorny devils, snakes, cockatoos, wombat, brolga, koala, galah

body part nouns: ears, nose, spines, tail, beak, back

adjectives: cosy, fluffy, furry, long, sharp, noisy, strong, scaly

feeling adjectives: lonely, tired temporal terms: first, next, evening

prepositional phrases: across the bush, beside a river, below

the ground

action verbs: rushed, crept, heard, hopped, scampered,

peered, climbed

saying verbs: laughed, sighed

thinking verbs: wondered, thought, know

pronouns: she, her, herself



Come Back, Alfie!

(Setting: neighbourhood, Themes: moving, community)

LANGUAGELIFT TARGETS	OTHER LANGUAGE FEATURES
story part focus: introduction to all parts	community nouns: driveway, home, neighbours
	pet nouns: budgie, cage, birdseed
	adjectives: favourite, silent
	feeling adjectives: worried, upset, overjoyed
	prepositional phrases: outside their house, into the driveway, out of the car
	action verbs: escaped, rushed, searched, appeared
	saying verbs: called, cried, shouted
	irregular past tense: slid, flew, felt, lost, stood, held, met
	adverbs: frantically, loudly
	figurative language: 'as still as garden gnomes'



Anna Is Annoyed

(Setting: playground, Themes: family, emotions)

LANGUAGELIFT TARGETS	OTHER LANGUAGE FEATURES
story part focus: introduction to all parts	playground nouns: swing, slide, bouncy horse, balance beam, sandpit
	family relation nouns: Mum, baby brother
	adjectives: twisty, slippery
	feelings: annoyed
	comparatives: annoyed - more annoyed - super annoyed
	temporal terms: Tuesday, after school
	prepositional phrases: up the slide, down the slide, over to the sandpit
	action verbs: twist, turn, slither, slip
	suffix 's' (3 rd person singular present tense): visits, rides, climbs, leans, waves, lugs, holds, helps, laughs
	adverbs: firmly, tightly, together, alone
	pronouns: he, she, his, her, him, herself
	negation: doesn't



Dotty McDermott Was Fierce and Bold

(Setting: beach, Themes: friendship, courage, Rhyming story)

LANGUAGELIFT TARGETS	OTHER LANGUAGE FEATURES
story part focus: who	seaside nouns: coast, sand, shore, bucket, spade, sea
Treasure Words: shy, brave	adjectives: tall, fierce, tiring, messy, boring
	feeling adjectives: uneasy, queasy, bold, courageous
	temporal terms: morning, afternoon
	action verbs: flopped, dug, blushed, smiled, played
	thinking verbs: thought, decided
	saying verbs: yelled, shouting, called, whispered
	figurative language: 'like she had gulped butterflies'



Windy Town

(Setting: natural places, towns, Themes: weather, opinion)

(County)	
LANGUAGELIFT TARGETS	OTHER LANGUAGE FEATURES
story part focus: where	transport nouns: bus, bridge, road, tunnel, sign
Treasure Words: rattle, shudder,	natural places: mountain, seaside, valley, river, forest, sky
wonderful	adjectives: old, grey, new, orange, friendly
sentences: who + action + where e.g., The bus drove over a bridge.	weather adjectives: windy, sunny, rainy, cloudy, wet, dry, hot, cold, warm, cool
	prepositional phrases: e.g., through a tunnel, around the corner
	irregular past tense: blew, brought
	pronouns: everybody, they, their
	figurative language: 'right out of town', 'in the same breath', 'sick of it', 'just right'
	onomatopoeia / alliteration: 'rattle, roll', 'shudder, shake', 'barrel, bump'



The Best Gift

(Setting: home, Themes: family, celebrations)

LANGUAGELIFT TARGETS OTHER LANGUAGE FEATURES story part focus: when celebration nouns: party, gift, card, banner, decorations, streamers, cake Treasure Words: surprise, noon, home nouns: curtains, bed, apartment wondering prepositional phrases: when temporal terms: days of the week, morning, noon, evening, e.g., on Tuesday evening night sentences: adjectives: special, surprise, beautiful who + action + object + when action verbs: tidied, painted, dusted, scrubbed, arrived, hugged e.g., Timi made a card on Monday irregular past tense verbs: made, drew, rang, wrote, hid, gave morning. thinking verbs: wondering, wanted sentences: when + who + action + object adverbs: usually, exactly, widely e.g., On Monday morning, Timi made figurative language: 'thrilled to bits', 'shone with joy', 'your a card. love is the best gift'



Douglas Duck Thinks He's the Boss

(Setting: pond, Themes: taking a stand, teamwork, Rhyming story)*

LANGUAGELIFT TARGETS	OTHER LANGUAGE FEATURES
story part focus: take-off, feelings, plan Treasure Words: grumbles, compete, furiously sentences with adverbs: e.g., Douglas quacked loudly.	nature nouns: pond, lagoon, logs, rocks, reeds, sticks, moss animal nouns: ducks, frogs, fish body part nouns: beak, wing adjectives: delightful, fast, slow, weak action verbs: struts, churns, follows, zooms
	saying verbs: agrees, suggest, cries, replies, sighs, whispersadverbs: proudly, loudly, fast, quietlyfigurative language: 'all of their might', 'on the double', 'acting so tough', 'told you so'

^{*}This book can also be used to explore Theory of Mind



The Song of the Billabong

(Setting: Australian bush, Themes: identity, collaboration)

LANGUAGELIFT TARGETS

story part focus: take-off, feelings, plan

Treasure Words: suddenly, thought, bark

connectors: first (for first 'action') e.g., First, Gilda tried singing with the magpies.

OTHER LANGUAGE FEATURES

Australian animal nouns: galah, wombat, koala, magpie, kookaburra, brolga, barking gecko

nature nouns: billabong, tree stump, clearing, gum tree performance nouns: talent show, judges, act, stage temporal terms: summer day, sunset, night, morning

adjectives: special, spectacular

action verbs: watched, stared, assembled, directed, sang, danced, laughed, bowed, cheered

saying verbs: giggled, scoffed, barked, cheered, announced **figurative language:** 'brimming with excitement', 'making a racket', 'star of the show'



A Wibbly Wobbly Idea

(Setting: home, town, Themes: inventions, creativity, self-acceptance)

LANGUAGELIFT TARGETS

story part focus: actions

Treasure Words: idea, tumbling, immediately

suffix 'ed' (transforming regular story verbs to past tense)

e.g., banged, tapped, twisted

sentences with adverbs:

e.g., Billy rode his bike furiously.

OTHER LANGUAGE FEATURES

building nouns: inventor, invention, plan, creation

home nouns: bowl, beater, kitchen, bucket, umbrella, shed

adjectives: strange, funny, useful, amazing, glorious

building verbs (3rd person singular present tense): bangs, taps, saws, snips, screws, bolts, twists, turns, tugs, tests, wheezes, whirs, scoops, stirs

thinking verbs: think, dreams, realises

adverbs: quickly, definitely

figurative language: 'his bedroom is a sea of ...', 'come in handy', 'tumbling into his head', 'wibbly wobbly'

onomatopoeia / alliteration: e.g., 'twists and turns', 'saws and snips'



Mo and the Monster

(Setting: magical forest, Themes: fantasy, kindness)

LANGUAGELIFT TARGETS

story part focus: solution, consequence

Treasure Words: stomped, terrified,

puzzled

connectors: because

e.g., The monster was happy because

Mo gave him honey cakes.

connectors: finally (for 'solution') e.g., Finally, Mo gave the monster an

ice-cream.

OTHER LANGUAGE FEATURES

nature nouns: forest, clearing, ground, dirt

people nouns: family, tantrum, (bear) hug, (best) friend

adjectives: huge, lost, alone

feeling adjectives: scared, hungry

prepositional phrases: e.g., into the clearing, out of the forest,

towards the monster

temporal terms: long ago, many a long year

action verbs: shuddered, stomped, kicked, marched, watched,

grabbed, snapped, reached, sniffed, gobbled

irregular past tense: shook, fell, clung, stood, threw, caught,

ate, made

saying verbs: howled, roared, shouted, asked



Maggie Goes to the Museum

(Setting: museum, Themes: past and present, imagination)

LANGUAGELIFT TARGETS

story part focus: setting ('where' and 'when')

Treasure Words: long ago, explains, notices

sentences with three adjectives e.g., My cave is big, cold and scary.

connectors: suddenly (for 'take-off') e.g., Suddenly, a tiger started talking to Maggie.

OTHER LANGUAGE FEATURES

museum nouns: hall, skeletons, cave, fire, dinosaurs, crystals, drawers, magnifying glasses, painting

adjectives: wide, stone, tall, echoing, enormous, ferocious, colourful, mysterious, beautiful, transparent

prepositional phrases: between two tall columns, through a door, in front of the cave, next to the fire, over the barrier, inside the drawers, back to the cave, behind the boy

action verbs: bouncing, listening, staring, waving, sitting, watching, draping, growing, scamper, skip, tumble

suffix 's' (3rd person singular present tense): leads, blinks, rubs, jiggles, checks, hops, looks, lends, notices

saying verbs: giggles, shouts, whispers, explains, asks, yells, gasps

adverbs: thoughtfully

figurative language: 'as bright as limes' 'as sharp as knives', 'as dark as inky night'



Blue Ted

(Setting: airport, ocean, island, Themes: courage, adventure, Wordless book)

LANGUAGELIFT TARGETS

story part focus: all parts

Treasure Words: review and apply 'suddenly', 'terrified', 'idea', 'immediately', 'wonderful', 'wondering', 'surprise'

connectors: finally (for 'solution') e.g., Blue Ted finally washed up on an island.

LANGUAGE THAT CAN BE GENERATED FROM PICTURES

holiday nouns: map, world, backpack, airport, runway, plane ocean nouns: water, seaweed, kelp, turtle, driftwood, swordfish, whale, waves, island, sand, shells, palm tree, boat adjectives: favourite, special, friendly, enormous, dark, glowing, bright

feeling adjectives: worried, terrified, lonely, relieved, surprised **prepositional phrases:** onto the runway, to the bottom/top of the ocean, over the sea, on some driftwood

temporal terms: one day/morning, once upon a time, at night, the next morning

action verbs: packed, ran, fell, rained, washed, sank, helped, climbed, floated, heard, watched, built