## TEACHERS' RESOURCES

## RECOMMENDED FOR

Preschool and Kindergarten

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## KEY CURRICULUM AREAS

- Learning areas: English, Creative Arts, Science, HSIE, Maths
- General capabilities: Literacy, Critical and creative thinking, Personal and social capability, Visual literacy.


## REASONS FOR STUDYING THIS BOOK

- To discuss new vocabulary, respond to texts and share feelings and thoughts about the characters in texts.
- To solidify the child's understanding of the alphabet
- To introduce new words in a fun and engaging way.
- To get children experimenting with new words and exploring their meanings and use in a sentence.
- To use and experiment with different materials, and create artworks to communicate ideas to an audience.


## THEMES

- Words and meanings
- Alphabet
- Animals
- Counting and colours


## PREPARED BY

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## All the Words I Need to Know

Jane Godwin \& Andrew Joyner


PLOT SUMMARY

All the words you need to know
Will help you as you learn and grow.
From ant and ball and yak and zoo,
Here's a word book
JUST FOR YOU!
A first dictionary for 3-5-with fun and lilting rhyme from Jane Godwin, and vibrant, joyful illustrations by Andrew Joyner reminiscent of Richard Scarry at his best!

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

JANE GODWIN is the highly acclaimed author of many books for children of different ages. Her work is published internationally and includes How Big is Too Small and Bear Make Den with Andrew Joyner, and Starting School, Little Cat and the Big Red Bus, All Through the Year, Today We Have No Plans, What Do You Wish For? Go Go and the Silver Shoes, Tilly and Don't Forget with Anna Walker. Jane is based in Melbourne. Find out more at janegodwin.com.au.

## ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR

ANDREW JOYNER is the illustrator and author of numerous children's books, including the \#1 New York Times bestseller Dr. Seuss's The Horse Museum; The Pink Hat; Stand Up! Speak Up!; How Big is Too Small by Jane Godwin; Blue, the Builder's Dog by Jen Storer; Boo! by Margaret Wild and The Terrible Plop by Ursula Dubosarsky. He also wrote and illustrated the Boris chapter book series about an adventure-seeking warthog. His books are now published in more than twenty-five countries. He lives with his wife and children in South Australia. Find out more at andrewjoyner.com.au.

## AUTHOR'S INSPIRATION

Jane says:
I wanted to make a book about words that was interactive and fun, and told via a conversation between an adult character and a child character with their own unique personalities.

## ILLUSTRATOR'S INSPIRATION

Andrew says:
I wanted the illustrations to feel welcoming and playful, just like Jane's text. I hope young readers see the book, and thus words and learning new words, as fun. Jane's text, with Big Owl and Little Owl, beautifully mirrors the way an adult might experience the book with a child. In my drawings, I tried to strike a balance between something simple and clear, and also active and energetic, with lots to see and explore.

## PRE-READING QUESTIONS

1. Before you even open the book, read out the title and ask the children what they think the book is about. Then read the back blurb. Now what is the book about?
2. Read out the subtitle, 'A First Dictionary'. What is a dictionary? What is it for? How do you find a word in a dictionary?
3. How many different animals can you find on the front and back covers?
4. Open the endpapers. What are all these letters together called? How many letters are there in the alphabet?

## KEY STUDY TOPICS

## English

## Questions

1. There are two narrators in this book. Who are they? (Big Own \& Little Owl) Do they have different ways of speaking?
2. Can you write a sentence using words that all start with the same letter? Do you know what this is called? (Alliteration)

## Activity

1. Favourite Letter: Think of five more words for your favourite letter. Write the words down and try to include them in one drawing OR write a sentence that includes some or all of your words.

## 2. Find a Word

Remembering the order of the alphabet that we use in a dictionary, try finding these words in the book:

- hand
- rainbow
- avocado
- teddy
- moon
- jump
- yak
- ear
- apple
- swing

3. Giant Capital:

Draw a giant capital letter (maybe the first letter of your own name), and then, inside your giant letter, write all the words starting with that letter that you can think of. You could do this with collage cut out the giant letter out of coloured paper, then write all the words inside. Or if writing them is too complex, children could draw them.
4. Zoo Look-and-Find

The final 'Zoo' spread in the book contains at least one item for every letter of the alphabet, most of them you will see throughout the book, but there are some mystery ones as well! (Hint: print out copies of the colouring-in version of the Zoo illustration in the activity sheets at the end. Answers are also there on a colour version.)

## Nature/Animals

## Questions

1. How many animals are featured in the book?
2. Can you find out five facts about owls?
3. Have you ever been to the Zoo or watched a nature program on animals? What was something new you learned?

## Activities

1. Mystery Animal Look-and-Find

There is one animal that is hiding on every page, sometimes twice! What animal is it? See if you can find it. Is it anywhere on the cover?
2. Animal Safari

Write down all the animals in the book.
Which is your favourite? Can you draw it?
3. Alphabet Animals

Think of an animal for each letter of the alphabet and write them down or draw them.

## Creative arts

## From the illustrator

I drew the illustrations for this book on my iPad (in the app called Procreate), mainly because I wanted everything in the book, like words and letters, and the conversations between Big Owl and Little Owl, to be fully integrated into the illustrations. Drawing on the iPad makes that a little easier, because it's almost like drawing directly onto the pages of a book.

## Activities

1. Animal Art

Do your own drawing of one of the animals in the book. (See the activity sheets at the end of these notes for some hints on how to draw an owl!)
2. Pond Full of Fish!

- On an A4 piece of paper, draw a fish - see the F page in the book for some hints on different kinds to try. Colour it in and then cut it out.
- Paint a large piece of butcher's paper with a blue wash (or have each child do a blue wash on an A3 page)
- Stick all your fish onto the blue paper (if there are lots of A3 pages, join them together) and you've created your own pond full of fish!
OR enlarge the activity sheets at the end of these notes for children to colour and/or cut out.

3. Animal Alphabet

- Give each child a piece of paper with a different letter of the alphabet printed boldly in the top left corner.
- Ask them to choose any animal whose name starts with that letter then draw and colour it on their page.
- Get the class to put all the Animal Letter pages in the order of the alphabet.
- Put them up as a class display and alphabet reference.
(Hint: if there are letters left over, use the activity as a reward to get more of their drawings put on display! If you have more students than letters, duplicate some of the more popular letters.)


## READING ALL THE WORDS I NEED TO KNOW

While you're reading the story with the class, here are some suggested questions you could ask.

## Page 2 and 3

Who is saying the words inside the white balloons? These are our two narrators. Do you know what a narrator is? What kind of animal are they?

What do we call the type of writing on these pages? Finding the rhyming words.

In the tree, there is a book for each letter of the alphabet. Can you find them? (Note: the 'E'\& 'G' books might be hidden in the middle fold)

## Page 4 and 5 (letters A \& B)

Say each of the words in bold black letters. Then look at the illustrations. How can they help tell you more about the words? (eg how big is the ant? How can you tell?)

Now read the words the owls are saying in their speech balloons. What else have you learned about the words?

## Page 6 and 7 (letter C)

What does the coat have on it?
What else on this page has stripes?
What other animal has stripes?

## Page 8 and 9 (letters D \& E)

Who in the class has a dog? What are their names?
What letter does each name begin with?
Sit quietly and listen carefully. What sounds can you hear with your ears right now?

## Page 10 and 11 (letter F)

How many fish are in the pond?
Name 3 different kinds of fish or flowers.

## Page 12 and 13 (letters G, H \& I)

Glasses is a word used to describe something else other than what we can see in the illustration. Can you tell us what that is?

Who is hiding in the hat?

## Page 14 and 15(letter J)

What are the different things the illustrator has added in each of these drawings to show us how things are moving?

Who else can jump? (Hint: turn the page!)

## Page 16 and 17 (letters K \& L)

How many of the animals on this page are found in the wild in Australia?

Where might you find a lion?
What do you think the ant on the lion's nose is saying? Is it load or soft? How do you know?

## Page 18 and 19 (letters M, N \& O)

O is for octopus, but what else on this page begins with O?

How many of the eight bold words on this page contain more than one of this spread's letters ( $\mathrm{M}, \mathrm{N} \& \mathrm{O}$ ).
[Answer: all of them!!]

## Page 20 and 21 (letter P)

What is another sound that a pig makes? What letter does that sound start with?

Make up a sentence using all four words on this page pig, pear, pickle, piano. You can add even more $P$ words if you like! Eg Percy pig preferred pears to pickles while playing his piano perfectly.

## Page 22 and 23 (letters Q \& R)

What animal is very quick on this page?
Do a countdown for the rocket from 10 back to 1.

## Page 24 and 25 (rainbow spread)

Can you recite the alphabet up to $R$ for rainbow?
Can you find something on this page that begins with each letter up to R in the alphabet? Which letters do think are missing? (Nothing beginning with $Q$ or J? What sound does a duck make? And what is the pink fish doing?)

## Page 26 and 27 (letter S)

There are lots of words that begin with S. How many children in the class have a name that begins with S? And now, how many have a name that contains the letter S?

## Page 28 and 29 (letter T)

Find the word beginning with $T$ that's not in the bold letters.

Count how many words on this page begin with Teither the bold words or in the speech balloons or elsewhere!

## Page 30 and 31 (letters U \& V)

Look careful at the words 'upside down'. What does each word mean on its own? Upside? Down? Now what do they mean when they're put together?

What is a virtuoso? Is it only used for someone who plays the violin?

## Page 32 and 33 (letters W, X \& Y)

What is a watermelon pip? Does your watermelon have pips? (Note: farmers mostly grow watermelons now without the hard, brown seeds to sell in supermarkets.)

Have you ever played a xylophone? Try making your own using 8 drinking glasses, each holding different amounts of water to make different sounds when hit lightly with a spoon (more water for lower notes, less for higher notes).

Not many words begin with X but what are some other words that contain the letter $x$ ? eg box, exciting, Tyrannosaurus Rex!

## Page 34 and 35 (letter Z \& alphabet)

How many zucchinis in the picture?
Now you know your $A B C$, can you sing the $A B C$ song?

## Page 36 and 37 (Treehouse)

Can you find all the rhyming words on this page (words that sound the same but have different letters eg hat and cat)?

Before you turn the page, where do you think they're going now? (Hint: it's a place starting with the letter Z.)

Page 38 \& 39 (Zoo)
Yay! You guessed it, didn't you? Have you ever been to the Zoo?

Try doing the 'Zoo Look-and-Find' activity that's under the English heading on p2.

## Page 40 (imprint page)

This page is called the imprint page that gives us all the details about how and when this book was made.

Congratulations, you've worked hard on your words and letters today! Feeling sleepy? ZZZZZZZzzzzzzzz

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ACTIVITY SHEET - Zoo Look-and-find


ANSWER SHEET - Zoo Look-and-find


ACTIVITY SHEET - Pond Full of Fish (with fish)


## ACTIVITY SHEET - Pond Full of Fish (to draw or glue fish onto)



How toD Daw Little Owl
by Little Ant
you can draw
Little Owl by starting with the letter...

2. ADD A LINE ON TOP.

4. SOME LINES FOR LEGS AND FEET.
1.

3. DRAW TwO 'O's FOR EYES.

5. AND SHAPES FOR LITTLE OWL'S WINGS AND TAIL.

6. Give little owl a Smiling beak and Some Dots for eyes.

7. NOW LET'S FINISH OUR DRAWING OF LITTLE OWL WITH A FEW LITTLE DETAILS.


FEET


