



Introducing Giglets

A gateway to a new reading experience

Giglets are an EdTech company providing online literacy and assessment resources through our platform. We work with schools across the UK, and we are also proud to be a preferred supplier to a number of local authorities as well as to the Welsh Government.

We were recommended for the **EdTech Impact Teacher Choice Award 2021** and have received superb feedback from teachers and pupils alike:

"Lots of resources come and go in schools over the years, but Giglets remains. It remains because of the quality of the books, the engaging music, the variety of the resources for pupils and staff and the way it develops pupil independence- and because the children love it!"

Lisa Cheeke, DHT, Cyfarthfa Primary School, Merthyr Tydfil

Giglets is a fully accessible and engaging online platform of multilingual texts and a curriculum-aligned language resources, providing an expanding library which currently has **over 1,200 texts - across 38 different languages** and is well placed to support all learners.

Offering an age-appropriate resource from Reception through to KS3, including pupils with SEN and those with EAL.

Developed in partnership with schools to support Teachers with the delivery of an engaging and differentiated learning experience and for all pupils to develop a love of reading, whilst significantly improving speech, comprehension, and language skills.

The rich and relevant range of texts encourages a love of reading, and challenges pupils to improve comprehension and language acquisition through a range of HOTS questions, reading test questions and literacy rich cross curricular tasks.

Our accompanying curriculum-aligned resources ensure both a consistent and high quality of provision, saves time and assists in assessing progress and raising attainment levels for all.

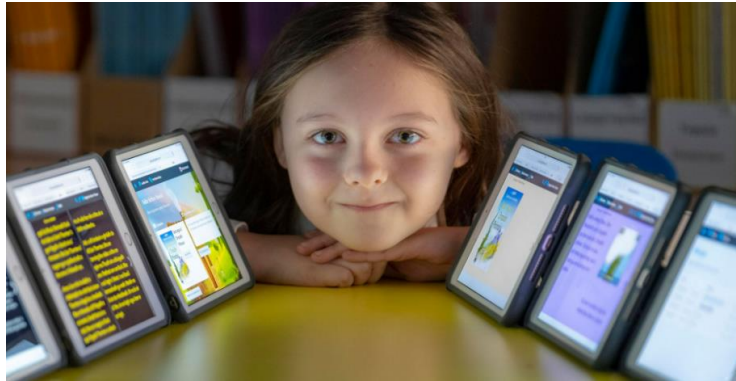
The three key aims of Giglets :-

- 1. To engage reluctant readers,**
with illustration, theme music, sound effects, audio voiceover, and animation.
- 2. To support SEN / EAL children and their parents,**
with 38 languages, dyslexic friendly fonts, a selection of font sizes and page colour.
- 3. To reduce teacher workload,**
with automatically marked tasks and progress reporting and analytics, including printable and editable lesson resources.

"Giglets has added another dimension to our literacy programme. It's a high-quality, engaging resource with huge capacity for differentiation.

Being able to use it, in class and at home, with all learners, while targeting individual pupils and groups is very beneficial." **Keira Finlayson, Headteacher - Fenwick Primary School**

The Giglets reader sits at the heart of our literacy resource with content and features designed to engage and support children and young people in reading and learning.



Pupils of all reading levels, languages and ages can access reading through a chrome book, tablet, PC, laptop or a mobile phone. The flexibility of the resource means that it can be used for, whole class reading, guided group reading, reading for pleasure and independent reading.

There is a huge choice of texts ranging from fiction and non-fiction, re-imagined classics, traditional tales plus Giglets original tales.

Many of the texts are sourced from around the world, so pupils are able to share and learn about different cultures and countries. Adding another dimension to your literacy programme and boosting parental engagement.

The Giglets library is always growing, typically we add at least 15 new texts per term in English as well as a host of texts in one of our growing range of languages.

Categorised by level, form, purpose, genre, features, theme and language, school leaders and teachers often tell us that our texts are often used as the spine of their school's literacy provision.

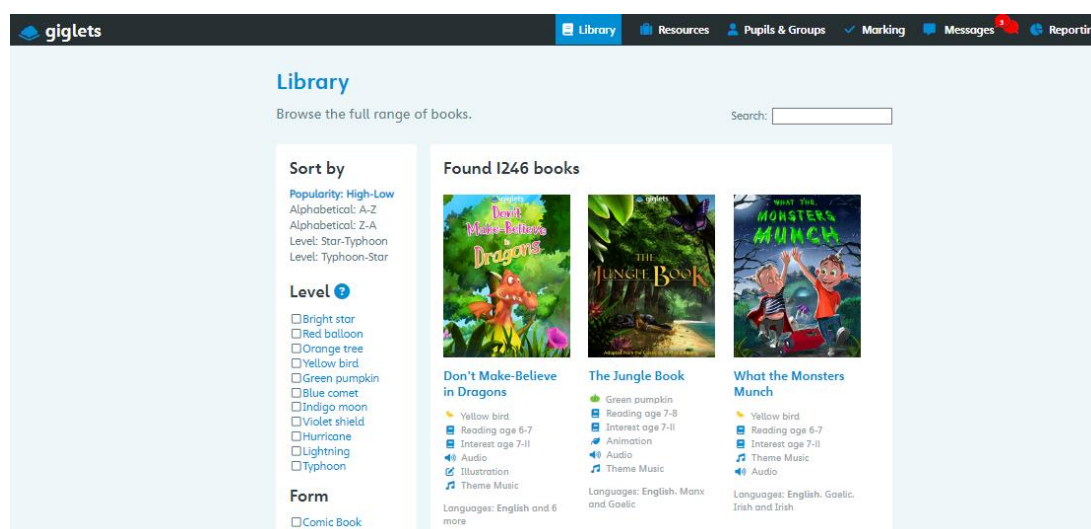
With such an extensive range of 'tools' within the Giglets platform, we would welcome the opportunity to demonstrate the system in more detail and discuss how it can benefit your particular school.

"Giglets has been really useful particularly for our SEND and EAL pupils who have found it more difficult to engage either with texts that are not in their own language, or have SPLD and found the text types and vocabulary in a number of books difficult to access.

The fact the books are on line is an added bonus for a number of our reluctant boys!"

Jo Marchant, CEO - Endeavour Partnership Trust

[Giglets | Online Literacy Development for Schools, Teachers, and Pupils](#)



Once enrolled, every school using Giglets is assigned an **Education Engagement Lead** - a qualified teacher, who is there to provide any training and support needed throughout the subscription.

'An Introduction to Giglets', training session, will be arranged at a time that best suits you, whether that be during an inset day or as an after school, twilight session.

Initial training covers the key features of Giglets and how to use them in your context as well as top tips for implementation and getting started.

Giglets also run online events that teachers can access.

These events include 'refresher' webinars where teachers can review how to navigate the platform.

There are best practice webinars that focus on getting the most out of Giglets features in the classroom, CPD Leaders' Events, storytelling events and other networking events where Giglets users can share best practice with one another.

"Working with the Giglets team has led to a huge shift in attitudes to reading of pupils, parents and staff in our school. Our parents have always been supportive of reading but now they are able to support with the HOTS.

Most importantly, pupils are able to access and improve these skills in school and at home and it has led to improved standards and increased engagement."

Jane Beckett, Headteacher - St. Joseph's R.C. Primary School

For real life examples of how schools have incorporated Giglets into the classroom can be seen in the following case studies:-

1. **Pontnewydd Primary and Nursery School**
2. **Fenwick Primary School**
3. **St. Andrew's Primary School**

Case Study One:- Pontnewydd Primary and Nursery School

Using Reading with Giglets as a Writing Stimulus



Pontnewydd Primary and Nursery School, was founded in 1955 in Cwmbran, South Wales. The school has 412 pupils and 34.9% of pupils are entitled to free school meals (FSM).

The school hosts a specialist teaching facility for a small number of students with moderate learning difficulties.

Staff at Pontnewydd were thrilled to have an engaging, digital resource to support reading sessions. It ignited a newfound enthusiasm and love of reading. Introducing Giglets to our learners saw them become instantly engaged. The illustrations and theme music captivated our learners and left them wanting more.

Initially Giglets was used to support reading across the school, but after twelve months, we began to use Giglets as a stimulus for writing as well as reading.

Alice Wilkinson, Year 6 teacher and Giglets Lead - Pontnewydd Primary School

An Engaging Resource to Support Reading

Pontnewydd Primary School subscribed to Giglets in 2018 and it quickly became embedded not only as resource to help teachers teach reading and comprehension but as a tool to promote a positive reading culture. I think that the variety and diversity of books on Giglets is fantastic!

Miss Jones, Year 3 Teacher - Pontnewydd Primary School

Using Giglets in Class

Teachers at Pontnewydd share Giglets books on the interactive whiteboard, to support modelled and shared reading and whole class engagement. Staff use the detailed, beautiful illustrations to initiate high-level discussions and develop children's higher order thinking skills. Highlighting rich vocabulary in the Giglets books, meant that the teachers could use Giglets to develop children's vocabulary.

Giglets also provided a great opportunity to use the books as excellent models of sentence structure. This became a key part in the whole class reading sessions.

Reading into Writing

Initially Giglets was used to support reading across the school, but after twelve months, Pontnewydd began to use Giglets as a stimulus for writing as well as reading.

Giglets books exposed the children to a range of quality vocabulary and a good range of sentence structure, which enabled us to explore and create our own sentences. Staff use the detailed, beautiful illustrations to initiate high-level discussions and develop children's higher order thinking skills.

Alice Wilkinson

Teachers at Pontnewydd not only used Giglets for sentence and paragraph level work but built whole writing units around texts. The following worked example shows how the Giglets text *The Curse* was used to develop narrative writing in Year 6 classes.

The Hook



In Year 6 we read 'The Curse' as a starting point for our Narrative Writing Unit.

Children were instantly engaged on the first day. We had copies of the front cover and illustrations around the room with the book title covered from sight.

We played the theme music and turned out the lights to create a supernatural atmosphere. This brought on fantastic discussions about what the children thought the book was going to be about. The boys in particular were very enthusiastic about this task as the images were mysterious and slightly unnerving!

Their predictions were fantastic and detailed! Using the illustrations in Giglets is an ideal opportunity to promote creativity and predictions skills. Listening and speaking skills can be developed as children share and listen to their peers responses to the illustrations. Everyone's opinions are valued as there are no wrong answers.

Alice Wilkinson

Developing a Deeper Understanding

In order to develop a deeper understanding of the text, its characters and the genre, Year 6 pupils used the resources provided on Giglets.

After reading, the learners had developed a full understanding of what a curse was, something that prior to reading they were not that familiar with.

It was important for the teacher and children to have a shared and common understanding of the word 'curse' to inform the next stage: the narrative writing.

The class teacher used the Giglets Higher Order Thinking Skills Questions, to discuss the story and challenge the children's thinking.

Alice Wilkinson

Vocabulary Building

When the children had a good understanding of the story and its features, teachers identified the key writing skills that would be needed for their final piece. An important part of those next steps was building a vocabulary bank children could draw from in their writing.

We used the highlighter tool to pick out specific vocabulary that we wanted to 'magpie' in our own version of the curse.

As a school, developing children's oracy skills and extending their vocabulary is important to us and Giglets is an effective way of supporting that.

Alice Wilkinson

The school used the Frayer Model to explore meaning of words and to find synonyms to extend their vocabulary.

Narrative Writing in Year 6

Following vocabulary work, the children planned their own narrative based on a curse. They used the structure of 'The Curse' to help them. Having this structure helped the children to plan their own writing.

They were also able to refer back to writing techniques used in the book such as 'show not tell' for ideas and inspiration.

Another successful technique used in the book was the use of a 'jingle'.

The children loved this idea and decided that they were going to reveal their own curse in their writing through a 'jingle'. too!

Alice Wilkinson

Impact

Overall, using The Curse as a starting point for the learners' writing worked really well. It gave those who usually struggle with innovative ideas a platform where they could change as little or as much as they wanted.

Children working below age-related expectations changed minor details in their own version such as characters and the curse itself; others, who were more confident writers, were able to produce an entirely new narrative.

I believe that had we not shared this Giglets book with the children then the outcome would not have been so successful. It was a great two weeks with high levels of engagement and participation from all members of the class.

Many children produced writing which was above their usual level.

Pupils at Pontnewydd

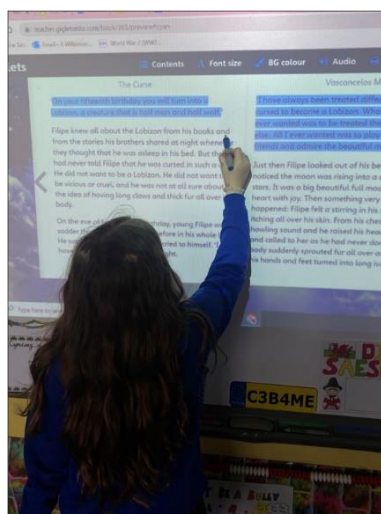
Children in Year 6 thoroughly enjoyed their experience of reading and writing from The Curse.

The Curse was so cool, I loved the pictures as they really got me thinking about the moon.

Year 6 Pupil

We loved reading The Curse, I didn't want the story to end. But sometimes I got a little bit scared!

Year 6 Pupil



For further any information please contact –

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Case Study Two:- Fenwick Primary School

How Fenwick Primary School added value to the reading experience

When expectations are growing but budgets are falling, you have to be confident that how you spend that budget has a strong impact in the classroom, and is therefore really great value for money.

Giglets Education supports teachers in revolutionising their literacy teaching through a multi-award-winning online literacy resource at budget-friendly prices.

Giglets transforms 'teaching reading' into an entire experience, which engages pupils across the board and can support individual, group, and whole class reading both in the classroom and at home.

Keira Finlayson joined Fenwick Primary School in East Ayrshire in Scotland as Headteacher in 2017, and was keen to develop innovative teaching methods within her staff, as well as to build strong partnership links with families.

"Giglets added another dimension to our literacy programme. It's a high-quality, engaging resource with huge capacity for differentiation. Being able to use it, in class and at home, with all learners, while targeting individual pupils and groups is very beneficial."

"Since introducing Giglets, we have seen great engagement from pupils, parents and teachers. Pupils find the digital element really motivational and parents enjoy using it with their children at home."



To make reading an immersive experience, Giglets books are enhanced by animations, theme music, audio and illustrations and pupils are able to totally personalise their reading experience through choosing their font, font size, font colour and page colour using the accessible book reader.

Keira also knows all too well that physical books can so quickly go missing or become ruined and recognises the strain this puts on the school budget.

“It’s having access to such a wide variety of books across all the ages and stages, as well as texts of a lower reading level but higher interest level, that makes Giglets excellent value for money. We would be unable to buy as many physical copies to share among our pupils. With Giglets, every pupil has their own copy to read and annotate.”

Supporting each book within Giglets there are question sets and curriculum-specific tasks that centre around developing confidence in using various reading strategies to understand a text.

“There are so many tasks for teachers to use both in class and at home which frees up planning and preparation time for teachers. Teachers enjoy having a huge bank of resources and can use Giglets both for curriculum-focused work as well as reading for enjoyment with their classes.”

Fenwick Primary School is an excellent example of how Giglets is being used to add value to the reading and learning experience.



Giglets is used by teachers and pupils at schools throughout the UK, from London to Liverpool, from Cardiff to Glasgow, and from Essex to Humberside to Aberdeen. Further afield, schools in Australia, Qatar and Switzerland also use the resource.

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Case study Three:- St. Andrew's Primary School

An Inclusive Resource at St. Andrew's Primary School



St. Andrew's Primary School in Newport, South Wales have been using Giglets since 2017 and we are delighted to have helped engage and include all learners in their literacy teaching.

"Giglets has been an invaluable resource that allows us to include everyone. Pupils of all reading levels, languages and ages can access reading through a variety of forms. From nursery rhymes to fact files to chapter books there is something accessible for all on Giglets!"

The never-ending library is full of vibrant, exciting and rich texts that can be used by pupils, staff and parents both in school and at home. I cannot imagine teaching reading without Giglets!" **Ellis Desmond, - Year 2 Teacher and LLC lead**

St. Andrew's Primary School subscribed to Giglets for a number of reasons including to enhance Guided Group Reading, Whole Class Shared Reading and for home reading. However, as with everything at the school, inclusivity and accessibility are at the heart of their vision. Having a resource that reflected their learners and was accessible and engaging to everyone was key for them.

"The range of languages available on Giglets also allows our EAL learners to access reading books at home and in school in their home language."

This allows parents to spend time reading with their children at home and also builds on pupil's confidence in being able to access reading via Giglets in their own language - something that they are both familiar and confident with." **Ellis Desmond**

Teaching with Giglets

Having such an inclusive resource meant that teachers could focus on literacy priorities more effectively. Teachers took time to explore Giglets and identify where it fitted within their literacy priorities and planning.

Teachers chose to assign books weekly for home learning, include Giglets texts within library displays and use Giglets texts as writing stimuli.

Giglets texts are also used for Guided Group Reading and Whole Class Shared Reading whether that be for specific writing focuses or for story time at the end of a school day.

Teachers used Giglets to model word and sentence level work as well as highlighting parts of the text to reinforce understanding or, for example, to discuss an author's style of writing.



Impact at St. Andrew's

Giglets has had a hugely positive impact on inclusion, accessibility and literacy engagement at the school.

Most importantly, pupils are engaged and included in reading no matter their reading level, background or language abilities.

"Giglets is fun because I can log in at home and in school and read lots of different books. I like to see what new book I have been assigned every week.

I like that I can read my Giglets book on an iPad and then answer questions about what I have read. Sometimes my friends and I share our Giglets books with each other.

I read my Giglets book to my friends in the reading area."

Pupil, age 7, St. Andrew's Primary School

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