

## Patterns of Spelling in Young Deaf and Hard of Hearing Students

By Tamby M. Allman

American Annals of the Deaf, Volume 147, no.1, 2002

This American study examined the invented spelling abilities demonstrated by kindergarten (equivalent to New Zealand year 0/1 students) and first-grade deaf and hard of hearing students. The study included two parts: In Part 1, the researcher compared three groups (deaf, hard of hearing and hearing) using post testing only on the Early Reading Screening Inventory, or ERSI (Morris, 1998) and in part 2 collected and analysed samples of the spelling of deaf students in a Total Communication programme. Analysis showed that the deaf group performed significantly differently in three areas: concept of word, word recognition and phoneme awareness (“invented spelling”; Read, 1971). The deaf group outperformed the hearing and hard of hearing groups in concept of word and word recognition. But in phoneme awareness, the deaf group performed significantly less well than the hearing group. Therefore, the deaf group’s spelling was followed for 1 year. Deaf students’ spelling patterns were not the same as those of hearing and hard of hearing students. Deaf students’ spelling miscues were directly related to the cueing systems of lipreading, signing and fingerspelling.

*The complete article is available from van Asch Deaf Education Centre Library.*

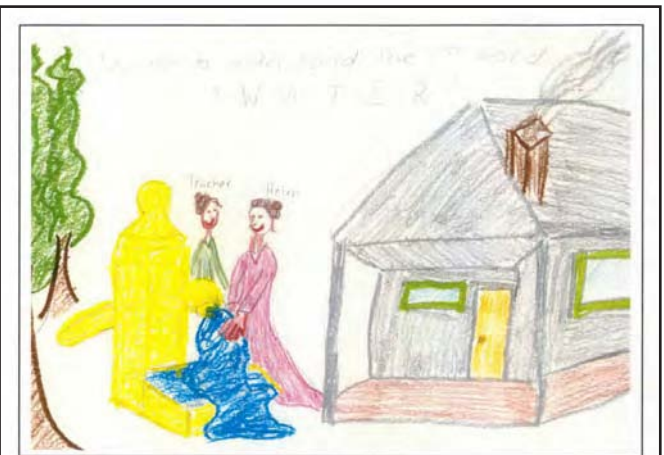
[mhunt@vanasch.school.nz](mailto:mhunt@vanasch.school.nz)

## The Regional Literacy Web Site

[www.vanasch.school.nz/literacy](http://www.vanasch.school.nz/literacy)

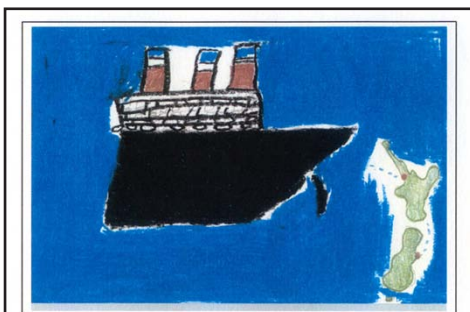
Two new reading pieces have appeared on the student pages. The first piece is a collection of historical photographs and an article about Helen Keller’s visit to Sumner School for Deaf in 1948. Patty Still also recounts Helen Keller’s visit to Sumner School for Deaf from the perspective of a senior student at the school.

The second piece is an electronic book written and illustrated by South Canterbury students retelling the life of Helen Keller. It can be found by clicking a small button at the bottom of the Helen Keller Visits Sumner School for Deaf article.



The first word Helen understood was “water”.  
The teacher held her hand under water and fingerspelt w-a-t-e-r.  
Helen was very excited.

By Nirvana



Helen Keller travelled around the world with her teacher. They travelled by boat. She met so many people. Helen Keller visited New Zealand in 1948 and went to Auckland and Christchurch Deaf Schools. She met heaps of deaf children there.

By Andrew (11)



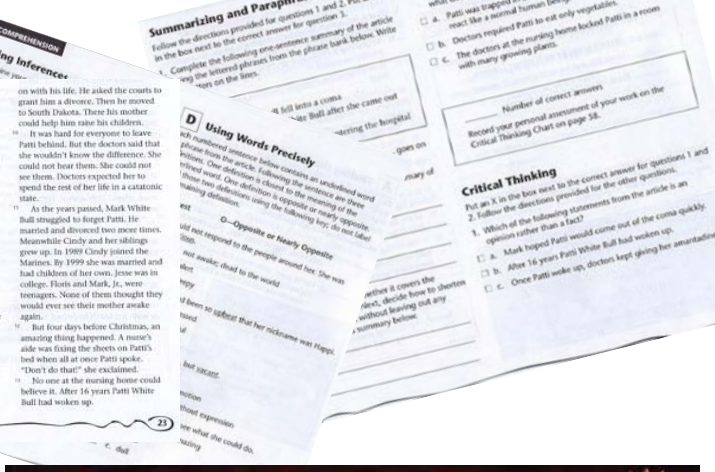
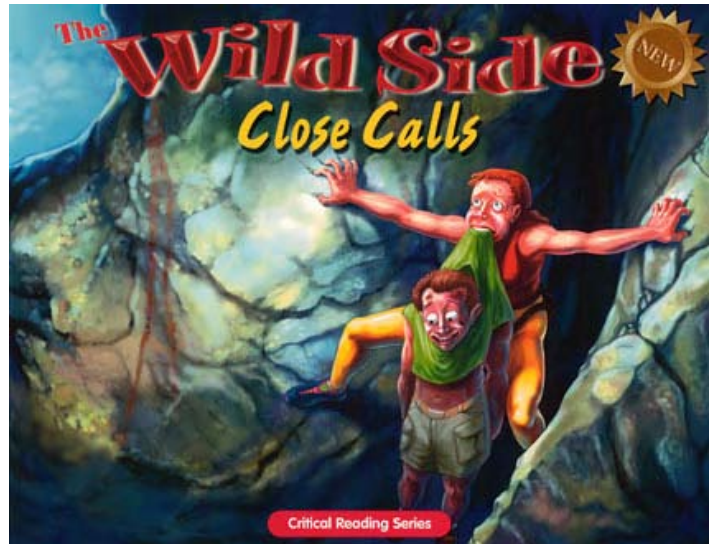
# Texts Suitable for Instructional Reading for High School Students

## The Wild Side Close Calls

By Henry Billings and Melissa Billings  
Jamestown Publishers, Illinois, USA, 2001

### Critical Reading Series

This book contains a series of fifteen short articles suitable for students with a twelve plus reading age. Close Calls contain three units, each of which contains five lessons. Each lesson begins with an article about an unusual subject or event. The article is followed by a group of four reading comprehension exercises and three critical thinking exercises. The reading comprehension exercises help students to understand the article. While the critical thinking exercises will help students to think about what they have read and how it relates to their own experience.

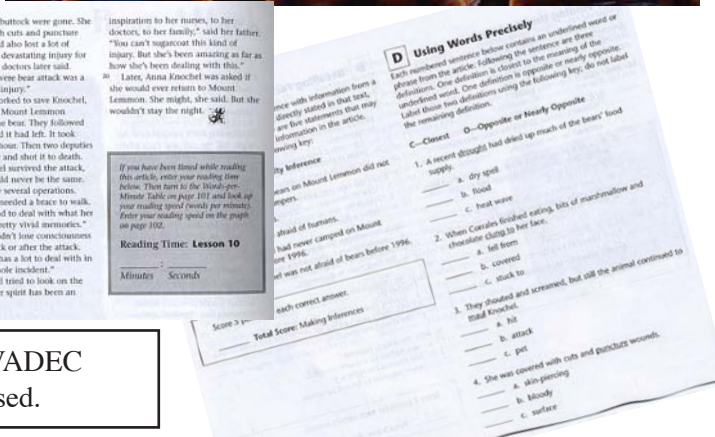
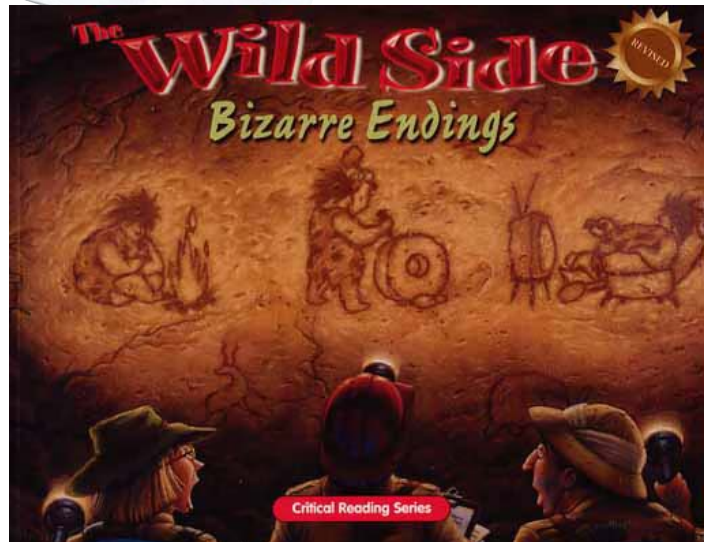


## The Wild Side Bizarre Endings

By Henry Billings and Melissa Billings  
Jamestown Publishers, Illinois, USA, 2001

### Critical Reading Series

This is another book in the series and is structured the same way as Close Calls.



Both of these books can't be taken out of the VADEC library, so the book/s would need to be purchased.

# INSTRUCTIONAL READERS

## Rascal Series

By Paul Jennings, Penguin Books, New Zealand, 2004

A series of early books based around a little dragon called Rascal and his companion Ben. It is advisable to read Rascal the Dragon first, as it introduces all of the characters that appear in the series. You will meet an odd assortment of dragons with enchanting names such as Sniff, Shovel, Ruff-Ruff and Bomber. The books have captivating modern illustrations with a line or two of simple text. They are suitable for the student who is reading at approximately light blue-purple level. They are also ideal for the older reluctant/struggling reader.

The Rascal books are also available through the Scholastic Lucky Book Club pamphlet offers, bookshops or through local libraries.

[Rascal the Dragon](#)

[Rascal in Trouble](#)

[Rascal's Trick](#)

[Rascal Takes Off](#)

[Rascal at the Show](#)

[Rascal and the Cheese](#)

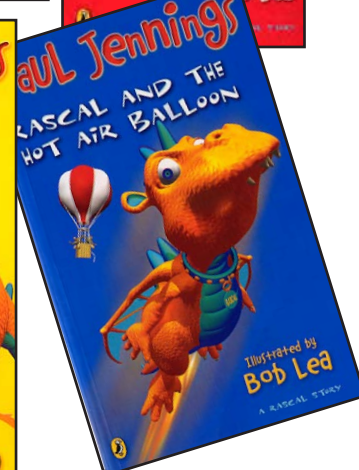
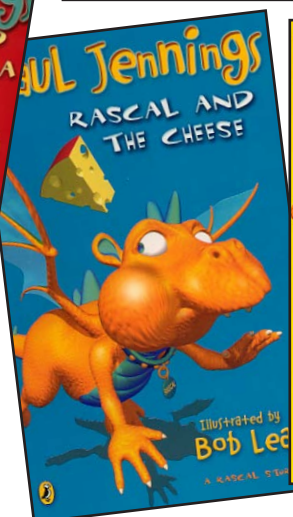
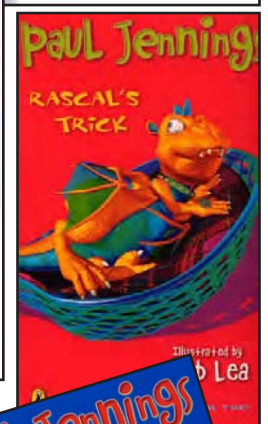
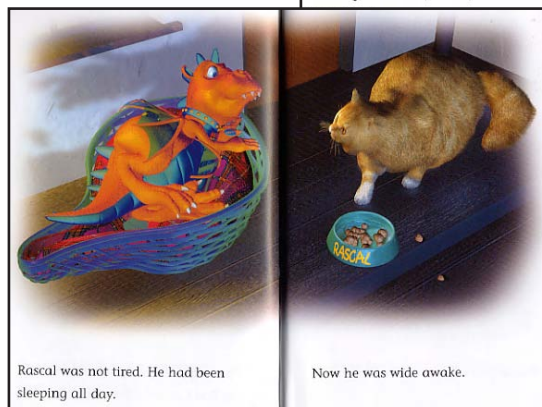
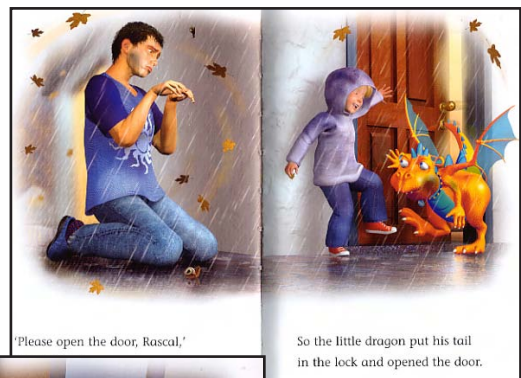
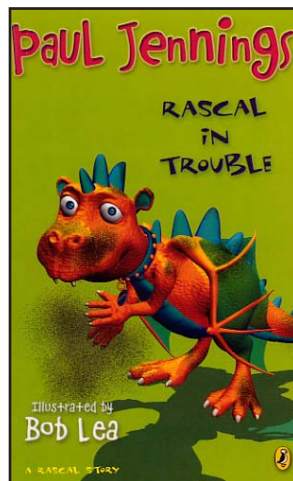
[Rascal and Little Flora](#)

[Rascal and the Hot Air Balloon](#)

The Paul Jennings web site is well worth a look, with pages from Rascal the Dragon, free bookplates to download, and kids book related videos clips to watch, etc. Preview the videos first though as they are not for the very young and squeamish.

[www.pauljennings.com.au](http://www.pauljennings.com.au)

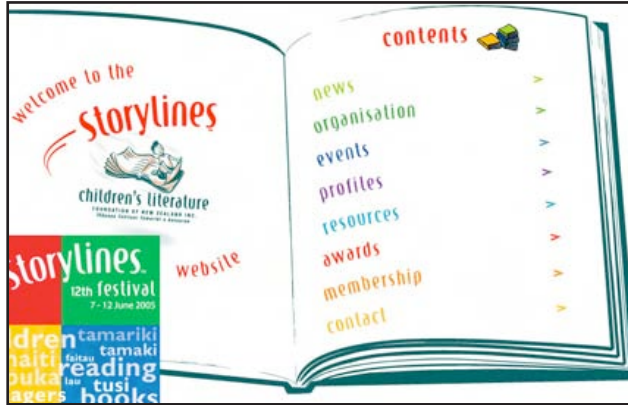
These readers are available on loan from VADEC library.



# INTERNET SITES

<http://www.storylines.org.nz>

This is the site of the New Zealand Children's Literature Foundation. It has excellent information and book lists and many useful links to other sites of value.



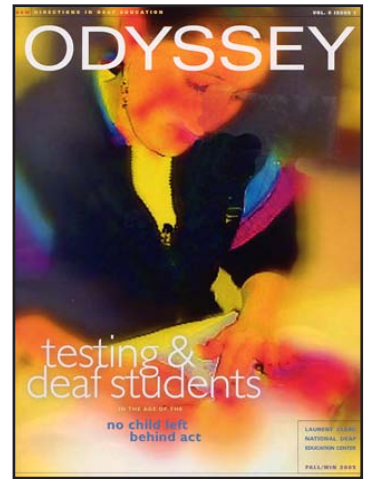
## Odyssey

An American magazine for deaf teenagers featuring their written and art work.

Published twice a year by the Laurent Clerc National Deaf Education Center, Gallaudet University.

<http://clercenter.gallaudet.edu>

VADEC Library has copies of Odyssey or you can download a copy from the Gallaudet site.



## Sailing Around the World without a Sound

<http://www.sailingwithoutasound.com>

### A DEAF CIRCUMNAVIGATION



...deaf people can do everything except hear. ...we prove it everyday. (Laurent Clerc)  
Paul Thompson is a shining example.

"Since I was a child, I have dreamed of sailing single-handed around the world. In preparation for that event, I built my own boat and have soloed thousands of blue-sea miles. I want this to be a voyage for all deaf people - I want to speak for them."

Paul J. Thompson was born and raised in Cape Town, South Africa. He became deaf at age two from a childhood illness. Always an eager student, he became a proficient lip reader.

A very interesting site featuring Paul Thompson who is Deaf. He was born in South Africa and now lives in NZ. Paul is preparing to circumnavigate the globe. The site is very text heavy with only a few photographs so it is most suitable for students that are capable readers.

## New Resources

### Multiple Meanings Card Game

This resource is designed to teach the difference between words with multiple meanings. All of the thirty cards are illustrated and have a sentence underneath to explain the word. Each pair of words is in matching colours, so that they are easily distinguished. The following words make up the set of cards: bank, bat, bulb, cold, fly, glasses, light, mine, mouse, park, play, tear, train, watch and wave. As well as using the pairs of cards individually for teaching specific word meanings the teacher and student could use the cards to play snap, memory and fish.

Catalogue number: 272

Price: \$4.00



### Sentence Poster

An A4 sized poster, which illustrates the basic elements necessary to construct a simple English sentence. The concept that a simple sentence is one idea written down is highlighted. The poster demonstrates the use of a capital letter, a verb and a full stop.

Cat. Number: 271

Price: \$2.00



Seasons Greetings from the Literacy Team

