

# THE HELPING HAND DETECTIVE AGENCY

• SERIES 1 •

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## I am really excited to share “The Helping Hands Detective Agency” series 1

The characters in these adventures are inspired by many of the young people I have taught.

They have kind qualities, smart moments, vulnerabilities and superpowers that I hope you will relate to and possibly even find in yourselves.

The stories have been written for learners who find reading difficult but, with the help of a ReaderPen, can enjoy and achieve reading independence. The activities

provide opportunities to learn more about the clever tools in the ReaderPen.

By working through the booklet you will become a confident Tech Dude who can use the ReaderPen in school or at home with confidence.

At the end of the book is a certificate, work towards it and celebrate your success.

Julia Clouter is a consultant SENCo and the Head of Education for Scanning Pens.

Her career in education includes: working as a SENCo, supporting dyslexic learners, and as an Intervention and Behaviour Support Advisor.

She is committed to supporting students to develop resilience and independence, and to unlock their learning potential through reading.

If you would like more information about Scanning Pens training and CPD opportunities, please refer to our website:



[www.scanningpens.co.uk](http://www.scanningpens.co.uk) or contact Julia at:



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Julia can also be contacted through twitter:



[@JuliaClouter](https://twitter.com/JuliaClouter)

#### Equipment:

These resources are designed to be used with a ReaderPen. We hope that your learners enjoy the stories and activities.

For best results please ensure that your learners have already worked with the ReaderPen and have a basic level of confidence in scanning words.

If you are still at the introductory stage please look at our primary implementation materials. These include video tutorials for learners and teachers.

#### ReaderPen Functions:

- |                       |                                                              |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|
| • All stories         | Text Reader and Dictionary (OPD – Oxford Primary Dictionary) |
| • Stories 5           | Scan languages                                               |
| • Stories 3, 4, 6, 15 | Recorder                                                     |
| • Stories 11, 12      | Scan to file                                                 |
| • Story 7             | Dictionary history                                           |
| • Story 10            | Quick word definitions while in Text Reader mode             |

#### Metacognition Activities:

- |                |                                                          |
|----------------|----------------------------------------------------------|
| • Stories 8, 9 | Self-reflection on literacy difficulties                 |
| • Story 13     | Self-reflection on attention difficulties                |
| • Story 14     | Understanding assistive technology                       |
| • Story 15     | Fluency probe – recognising personal progress in reading |

You are welcome to photocopy or download these reading and activity cards from our website. Each reading activity can be used independently or as part of a sequence.

#### Readability of Resources

With a ReaderPen to support reading, these stories and learning resources are appropriate for learners aged 6 to 13.

KS3 learners also enjoy these stories. There are problem solving and smart tech themes that are particularly appealing for boys and older readers.

#### The Helping Hand Detective Agency Series 1

- |                      |                       |
|----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Lost in the Sand  | Reading Age 6 upwards |
| 2. Winston's Glasses | Reading Age 8 upwards |
| 3. The Drone         | Reading Age 8 upwards |
| 4. The Message       | Reading Age 8 upwards |
| 5. The Network       | Reading Age 8 upwards |
| 6. Alyssa's Tunnel   | Reading Age 8 upwards |
| 7. In Egypt          | Reading Age 8 upwards |
| 8. Eureka's dyslexia | Reading Age 8 upwards |
| 9. Jelly Sweets      | Reading Age 8 upwards |

10.	The Tech Dude	Reading Age 11 upwards – extension vocabulary activity.
11.	Sasha's Ideas	Reading Age 8 upwards
12.	The Spinnaker	Reading Age 11 upwards – extension vocabulary activity.
13.	Smart Watch	Reading Age 8 upwards
14.	Connections	Reading Age 8 upwards
15.	Jinx's Car	Reading Age 7 upwards

### How these resources fit into the KS2 curriculum:

You might like to use 'The Helping Hand Detective Agency' Series 1 in the following ways:

- As a differentiated reading comprehension activity.
- As a lesson starter or plenary to a reading intervention session.
- As a motivational stand-alone learning programme.
- To compliment KS2 Geography curriculum key terms.
- As a supporting activity for learners with SEN, SpLD dyslexia and ADHD.
- To extend and explore new vocabulary.
- To support BLP and the concepts of learning to learn.

If you have embraced the Building Learning Power approach to teaching and learning you will notice that the characters explore different challenges by using their learning powers.

- Winston represents reflectiveness and the strategic aspects of learning
- Alyssa represents resourcefulness and the cognitive aspects of learning
- Eureka represents resilience and the emotional aspects of learning
- Sasha represents reciprocity and the social aspects of learning
- Jinx represents curiosity and fun.

Each character also explores the social and emotional aspects of learning and has characteristics that are linked to learning difficulties.

Some of the activities are designed to help explore ideas about different ways of learning while recognising personal strengths and weaknesses.

Baring mind the need to support mental health well-being, the stories can be used as a stimulus to help learners discuss their own experiences of reading and share ideas about any mutual similarities to those of the characters.

### The Characters Difficulties and Strengths:

	Difficulties	Strengths
Winston	Visual impairment	Leadership, Meta-learning, Strategic
Alyssa	Dysgraphia / Dyscalculia	Imagination and reasoning
Eureka	dyslexia, shy, introspective	Perseverance
Sasha	Attention difficulties, dyspraxia	Supports collaboration
Jinx	Behaviour	Charismatic, robust, incentive



# The Helping Hand Detective Agency

## Lost In The Sand

Winston the Owl was lost.  
He'd fallen asleep and had woken up in a different place.  
This was not his home.  
All he could see was...  
Actually, he couldn't see anything.  
His Top-Tech glasses were covered in dust.

He tapped the side of his glasses to open a control menu.  
"Self-clean," said Winston. Two small air jets blew away the dust.

"That's better," he said, and looked around.  
Now he could clearly see pebbles, stones, boulders and dust.  
It was a very barren landscape.

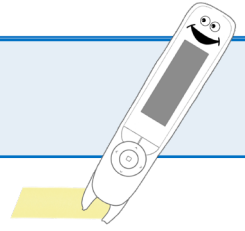
He sat down on a rock to think.  
Something must have happened while he was asleep.  
"Is this a disaster, or a catastrophe? Maybe an opportunity?  
It's definitely an adventure!  
I wonder if everyone else is okay?"



Name:

Date:

This activity is designed for use with a ReaderPen.  
You will be using Text Reader and Dictionary functions.



1. Scan these words and listen back to your ReaderPen.

completely	actually	boulder	definitely
pebble	catastrophe	adventure	opportunity

Say them all aloud.

2. Use the Oxford Primary Dictionary (OPD) and find the definition of each word.

Which word means a disaster? \_\_\_\_\_

Which word means an unexpected event? \_\_\_\_\_

Which word means a smooth rounded rock? \_\_\_\_\_

3. Choose the right word to fill the gaps:

dust	must	just	trust
boulders	catastrophe	landscape	adventure

Winston thought he \_\_\_\_\_ be in a desert.

The \_\_\_\_\_ seemed to be completely barren.

Nothing grew in the \_\_\_\_\_

All he could see was \_\_\_\_\_ and rocks.

It's definitely an \_\_\_\_\_ he thought.



# The Helping Hand Detective Agency

## Winston's Glasses

Winston was looking at the horizon and planning.  
He spun his head almost completely around and tapped his glasses,  
“Zoom” he said.  
In the distance, a line of hills came into focus.  
He could see a cool, shady glade.

The sky was blue, and the sun shone like a brilliant golden orb.  
The landscape began to shimmer.  
“Shades” said Winston and his glasses darkened.

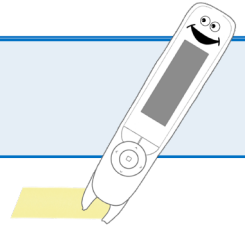
Winston's rock was getting too hot.  
I know where I am going, he thought.



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

This activity is designed for use with a ReaderPen.  
You will be using Text Reader and Dictionary functions.



1. Scan these words and listen back to your ReaderPen.

horizon	swivelled	orb	glade
distance	shimmer	shone	focus

Say them all aloud. How many of these words can you find in the story?  
When you have found and scanned them draw a circle around the word above.

2. Use the Dictionary (OPD) to find the definition of each word in question 1.

Which word means the line between land and sky? \_\_\_\_\_

Which word means a sphere ? \_\_\_\_\_

Which word means to shine and flicker brightly? \_\_\_\_\_

3. Choose the right word to fill the gaps:

horizon	distance	focus	completely
landscape	glade	mountain	swivelled

Winston was looking at the \_\_\_\_\_ and planning.

His Top-Tech glasses helped him to \_\_\_\_\_ things in the distance.

He could see trees in a cool shady \_\_\_\_\_

The \_\_\_\_\_ had started to shimmer.



# The Helping Hand Detective Agency

## The Drone

Winston arrived at the glade. I need an aerial view he thought.  
Reaching into his waistcoat pocket, he pulled out a tiny drone.  
He tapped the other side of his glasses and said, "Up."  
The drone shot straight up into the air.  
As it settled into hover mode, images from its camera emerged.  
They were projected by Winston's glasses into the space in front of him.

In bright strong colours, the streak of a wide river appeared.  
On either side of it was vegetation.  
Small buildings were dotted about in clusters.  
He saw villages, towns, hills and valleys and lots and lots of sand.  
Winston turned his drone around in a circle. "Up higher," he said.

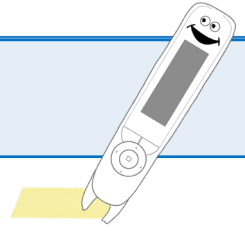
To the north, large triangular structures appeared.  
He could also see a huge stone lion with human features.  
All around him were ruins and temples.  
Now Winston knew where he was.



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

This activity is designed for use with a ReaderPen.  
You will be using Text Reader, Dictionary, and Recorder functions.



1. Which of these are natural features? Draw a line under them.

plantation   town   farm   city   forest   vegetation   port   shop   river   village

2. Use the Dictionary (OPD) and find the definition of each word in question 1.

An estate that grows crops is a \_\_\_\_\_

A group of houses is a \_\_\_\_\_

3. Now try these with words. Use the OPD dictionary to help you.  
Tick the correct answer.

a) A cluster is      a small group    a large crowd    a broken pot

b) A structure is    a document    something that has been built

c) A pyramid is    a small house    a triangular shaped structure

4. Record your Story

Imagine that you have a drone. You fly it up into the sky above you.

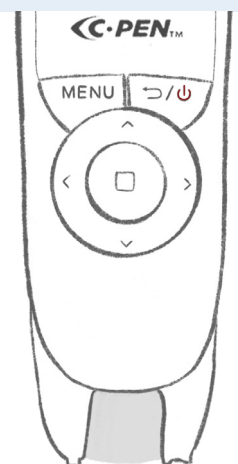
You are going to describe the landscape that you can see.

Speak your ideas into the Recorder on your ReaderPen.


Write down the ideas that you have recorded.

Check the meaning of the word emerge in your dictionary.

Use the word emerge in your description.



**How to use your ReaderPen to make a recording:**

In the main menu scroll down to the  Recorder. Select Record.

⦿ Press the circle button to start recording. ⦿ Press it again to pause or stop.

When you press the  button it saves your file and gives it a number.

To play your recording choose your file number and press the select button.

**Top Tip: Playback is clearer through headphones.**



# The Helping Hand Detective Agency

## The Message

Winston opened his waistcoat pocket and looked up.

“Home” he said, and the drone gently came back and dropped inside his pocket.

“Now I know where I am,” he thought, I need to find out how I got here.

“My friends will be wondering what’s happened to me.”

Winston tapped the side of his glasses and sent a message to his friends.

He sat down and looked through the images from the drone very carefully.

The evening sun was turning the desert orange.

There was a sudden movement in the sand, a ripple, and then a shudder.

Winston kept very still and observed. The sandy ripple moved closer.

It left a heaped trail in its wake, and then it stopped right in front of him.

A hole appeared. Two black antennae emerged, and a white hard hat.

Winston recognised the hat by its stickers. “Alyssa, is that you?”

“Yes, It’s me. Hi Winston, it’s good to see you.

I was tunnelling when I received a message from Sasha.

She said you needed help, and I wasn’t far away.

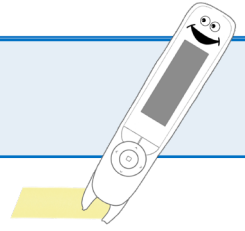
Actually, I was a bit lost, which is unusual for me,” she said quietly.



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

This activity is designed for use with a ReaderPen.  
You will be using Text Reader, Dictionary, and Recorder functions.



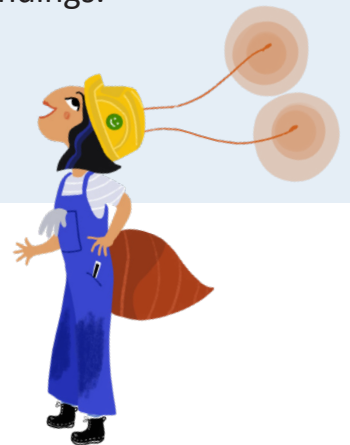
- On an ant, it's antenna is \_\_\_\_\_  
You might shudder if you were \_\_\_\_\_  
In a desert you would find \_\_\_\_\_

- Use the Dictionary (OPD) to help you to choose the best word to complete the three sentences below.

careful	ripple	describe	recorded
appear	images	obvious	observed

Winston observed a \_\_\_\_\_ in the sand.  
He looked at the \_\_\_\_\_ from his drone.  
Winston's drone had \_\_\_\_\_ every detail of his surroundings.

Winston's skill is looking at things very carefully.



- Record your answer to this question into the ReaderPen.  
**Top Tip: Practice saying your answer before you record.**

- Winston uses some very cool tech. Describe his drone and what it does.  
Listen back to your recording.

The ReaderPen is a good tool for making notes, which you can listen to later.  
Some students record the teacher's instructions. Another great way to use the recorder is to help you remember your homework tasks.

# The Helping Hand Detective Agency

## The Network

Alyssa Ant was the chief engineer on a very big project. She was linking a tunnel network under the ground. It was going to be used by ants from all around the world. Alyssa's tunnels would connect ant colonies from England, Australia, Canada, France, India, and America. A big meeting chamber was going to be dug out and it was going to be located under The Valley of the Kings in Egypt.

Alyssa had started her tunnel beneath Nelson's Column in Trafalgar Square, in the very heart of London. She was travelling south and wanted to stop in Portsmouth to make a secret surface door. She took a long look at The Spinnaker Tower and smiled. Then she set off again, under the English Channel.

"Bonjour Alyssa," said Antibes Ant. "Je t'ai attendu. J'ai une nouvelle carte pour toi."

"Merci Antibes. C'est fantastique!"

"Thank you, Antibes. This is fantastic!" said Alyssa.

"This is going to be very useful." She smiled. "Your maps are more up to date than mine. I wonder if -"

Suddenly, halfway through her sentence everything changed.

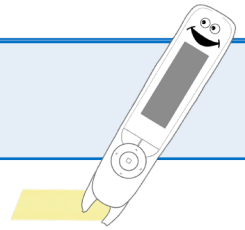
She was in a different place; it was an underground tunnel and it was very hot.



Name:

Date:

This activity is designed for use with a ReaderPen.  
You will be using Text Reader in English and French and using the OPD.



The Valley of the Kings is in North Africa.

1. Circle the places that Alyssa wanted to connect with a network of tunnels.

England	Spain	Australia	Malta	France	Germany
Canada	Mexico	China	India	America	Norway

2. Reading the French words. Program your pen to speak in French.

Alyssa has a friend in France called Antibes.

He says: "Hello Alyssa. I waited for you. I have a new map for you."

3. Here are the steps you need to take to make your pen read in French.

Go to Text Reader mode.

Press the **MENU** button. **Quick Set.**

Use the down arrow key and select Scan Languages.

Choose French.

Listen to what Antibes says.

If you keep scanning the story, your pen will read the words with a French accent.

To change the setting back to English

Go to Text Reader mode.

Press the **MENU** button (You are now in **Quick set**).

Use the down arrow key and select Scan Languages.

Choose English.



# The Helping Hand Detective Agency

## Alyssa's Tunnel

Alyssa blinked. Antibes had gone, and she was somewhere else. She was in a tunnel, but the walls were not like the ones under Paris. These walls were yellow and smelt sandy. She felt a wave of anxiety.

Alyssa was worrying.

Where am I? What has happened? This is wrong! I don't understand! Her heart was beating very fast. I must calm myself down she thought. She counted to ten and breathed slowly. I have got my hard-hat, my pen, and my tablet. I can work this out. I will go up and see where I am.

Above ground Alyssa had a signal. Messages started to pop up on her tablet. One said, 'IMPORTANT.' It was from her friend Sasha, and she read this one first. It said:

'Winston is in Egypt, he has no idea how he got there.'

'Eureka has worked out that you are near him.'

'I am sending you Winston's GPS coordinates so you can find him.'

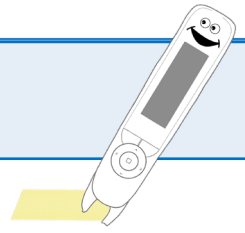
Alyssa's tablet beeped and a marker appeared on her map.



Name:

Date:

This activity is designed for use with a ReaderPen.  
You will be using Text Reader, Dictionary, and Recorder functions.



1. One of these words **does not** mean **strange**. Draw a circle around it.  
Use the dictionary to help you to find the odd word out.

strange	unusual	peculiar	odd
curious	funny	different	similar

2. Why do you think Alyssa might have been feeling anxious?

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3. We are going to record a message for Alyssa to help her feel better.

**Read** and **think** about the paragraph Feeling Less Anxious below.

**Feeling Less Anxious** Sometimes it helps to slow down your breathing.

This feeling will pass. Soon you will feel okay.

- 1 Take a deep breath, hold it, let it out.
- 2 Take a deep breath, hold it, and let it out slowly.
- 3 Take a slow deep breath, hold it, and let it out slowly.

Well done. That was brilliant. You are really good at self calming.



**Use the Recording Function on your pen.**

**Select Recorder – Record – Press OK to record.**

Now record the Feeling Less Anxious advice. It's okay to say it your own way.

When you have finished press **OK** to stop.

Press the **BACK** button – Choose **Play Recording** to listen to the message.

Well done. You are amazing. Thank you for helping Alyssa.



# The Helping Hand Detective Agency

## In Egypt

Alyssa wasn't far from Winston.  
She could see his location flashing on her tablet.  
The sand rose up in ridges behind her as she moved in his direction.

Alyssa was wondering how she had moved so far and so quickly.  
She estimated the distance. "It must be three thousand miles between The Eiffel Tower in Paris and The Valley of the Kings in Egypt."  
She had been expecting to navigate her way around mountain ranges in France and to burrow under the Mediterranean Sea.  
Alyssa had missed the chance to explore the ancient, secret tunnels under the city of Valletta in Malta. She knew all sorts of strange stories about the labyrinth that had been dug out of the limestone.

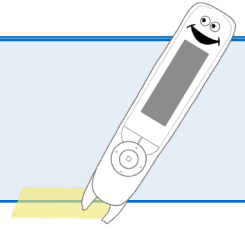
Alyssa was approaching the place shown by the flashing beacon on her tablet.  
"So how did I get here so quickly, and what is Winston doing here?  
Winston is in Egypt and he doesn't know why. Now I am in Egypt and I don't know why. I wonder if this could be connected?" she thought.  
The sand started to fall away as she rose up to the surface.  
"Alyssa is that you?" said Winston.



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

This activity is designed for use with a ReaderPen.  
You will be using Text Reader, Dictionary, and Recorder functions.  
You will also find out where your history of dictionary searches are.



1. Choose the best word to complete the sentences below.  
You may need to use the dictionary for new or unfamiliar words.

location	distance	direction	navigate
estimated	travel	beacon	explore

Alyssa could see Winston's \_\_\_\_\_ flashing on her tablet.  
She \_\_\_\_\_ the number of miles she had travelled.  
There should have been mountain ranges to \_\_\_\_\_ around.

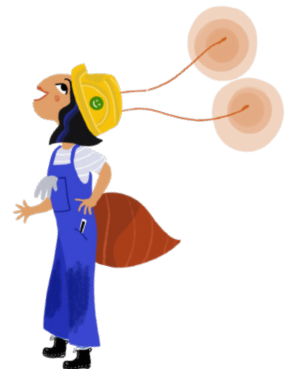
2. Circle the seven things that Alyssa might have thought about as she tunnelled.

Valletta City	secret tunnels	Malta
mountain ranges	The Mediterranean Sea	ice creams
rock cakes	The Eiffel Tower	limestone

3. Use your dictionary (OPD) to find the definition of each word.

Ancient means \_\_\_\_\_  
Navigate means \_\_\_\_\_  
A labyrinth is a \_\_\_\_\_

Let's look at your history of dictionary searches.  
Select **Dictionary**. In this menu now press the **MENU** button.  
This is where you can look at your search history.  
Now you can easily find the new words that you have learned.  
This is also a great way to store your spelling lists or key words.



# The Helping Hand Detective Agency

## Eureka's dyslexia

Eureka swivelled around on his chair.

As he turned, the lights from his computer screen flashed by.

He was waiting for a programme to load and it was taking ages.

He sighed, stopped turning, and looked at the coding manual on his desk.

He could see a lot of tricky words so he reached for his ReaderPen.

This was one of Eureka's favourite pieces of tech. It was his decoder.

Eureka found it difficult to read. He'd been told that he had dyslexia.

This meant that reading made him feel tired, frustrated, and sometimes a bit angry.

There was a time when he couldn't read anything. The letters and words jumbled up together and he had decided that books were not for him.

But that was in the past. Now he had the tools that he needed to help him.

As soon as Eureka could read, he had realised that he was actually quite clever.

He put on his headphones and listened to the words that he scanned.

He heard: 'To enable devices to be linked, first format your interface.'

Eureka smiled. He knew exactly what he needed to do.

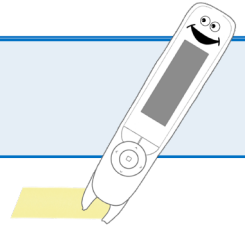
He wasn't just smart, he was a technical whiz kid. "Eureka!" he shouted.



Name:

Date:

This activity is designed for use with a ReaderPen.  
You will be using Text Reader and Dictionary functions.



**About dyslexia :** Eureka has a learning difficulty called dyslexia.

He struggles to read and learn new words.

Dyslexia can be mild, moderate or severe. This is a bit like saying it can be cold, warm or hot. The good news is assistive technology tools can help a lot.

Below are some words that describe Eureka's feelings about reading before he had a ReaderPen to help him:

Colour this box in green.  Colour this box in red.

1. Draw a circle around the words that describe Eureka's feelings in green.
2. Draw a box around the words that you feel about reading in red.

Tick Yes if you are using a **ReaderPen** to help you with this work. Yes ☐

frustrated	disappointed	anxious	sad	optimistic
tired	cross	angry	fed up	relaxed
distracted	unhappy	bored	worried	carefree
happy	interested	calm	confident	serene
intrigued	positive	cool	hopeful	stressed

## Eureka's Learning Powers

Eureka is resilient.

Sometimes reading is difficult but he keeps trying.

He finds different ways to solve problems rather than giving up.

Eureka needs tech tools to help him. He thinks that they are cool.



# The Helping Hand Detective Agency

## Jelly Sweets

“Eureka!” he shouted.

Suddenly Eureka felt embarrassed. He had shouted out loud again.

He pushed a lever causing his chair to shoot forwards.

He looked out of his shell.

Nobody had seen or heard him. “Phew,” he said as he retreated.

Looking back at the computer screen, he noticed that his programme had finished loading. Now he believed he could link up five different devices and make them talk to each other. If it worked, it was going to make networking with his friends fast and smart.

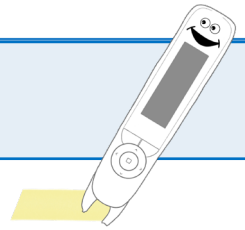
Eureka was interested in problem solving and he was good at seeing patterns. It was almost as if he could see things that other people couldn't. He opened up a big bag of jelly sweets and popped one into his mouth. The link up experiment was going to take a few hours to run. He pressed a button and continued spinning on his chair.



Name:

Date:

This activity is about self reflection. Use the ReaderPen to help you.  
Do you find reading tricky? What do you need to help you?



1. Read each of these statements and tick if they are true or false for you.

		True	False
1	I have been using a ReaderPen to help me today.		
2	I like reading more when I have a ReaderPen to help.		
3	Finding the word I want in a dictionary is difficult for me.		
4	I like to use the dictionary setting on the ReaderPen.		
5	Using the ReaderPen makes me feel more confident.		
6	Having extra time for reading tasks is helpful.		
7	When I look at words on the page they will not stay still.		
8	Reading makes me feel tired.		
9	I struggle to read writing on displays and on the board.		
10	I don't want teachers to notice me.		

2. Eureka finds reading really tricky.

He is quite shy and does not want people to notice him.

He likes technology and is good at coding. He is also a good friend.

What are your three top skills?

1	
2	
3	



# The Helping Hand Detective Agency

## The Tech Dude

The cool thing about Eureka's shell was that it was much bigger on the inside than it was on the outside. The outside looked like a rucksack. Inside was Eureka's tech cave. A place for thinking, daydreaming or hiding when he was feeling worried. Eureka's friends called him, "The Tech Dude" and "Eureka" because that is what he shouted when he had fantastic ideas.

Fun Fact: "Eureka" is what the famous Greek Mathematician and Inventor, Archimedes, shouted while jumping out of a bath. He had just discovered water displacement theory, which meant that he could solve the problem of how to calculate the amount of gold in King Hiero's crown.

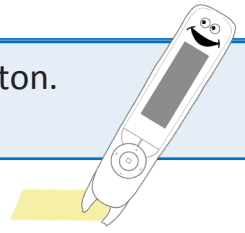
Eureka noticed that his programme had finished running. A light flashed. The first link up was ready to test. Simultaneously, a message from Winston appeared on his screen. It caused Eureka to frown and scratch his head thoughtfully.



Name:

Date:

You are going to discover how to quickly look up a word using the menu button. It can help you to find a word definition while in Text Reader.



1. Quick word definitions: Use your ReaderPen in Text Reader mode.

Scan the line of text that starts with the word '**simultaneously**'.

Using the arrow buttons, choose the word '**simultaneously**'. It will highlight in blue.

Now press the MENU button. This will take you to the Quick Set screen.

Choose the option Definition.

It will read you the definition from the Collins English Dictionary for this entry.

Check to see if 'simultaneously' means: 'at the same time' and 'together'.

2. Now try these words:

simultaneously      theory      appear      alleged

Things are happening at the same time are occurring \_\_\_\_\_

An idea or set of rules that explain something is a \_\_\_\_\_

Did you notice that the definitions given seemed more technical?      Yes ☐      No ☐

The pen has taken these words from the Collins Dictionary.

This can be helpful if the word you want is not in the **Oxford Primary Dictionary**.

3. Explore the differences in word definitions.

For all of the words below try both ways of using the dictionary.

Step 1: Use the Dictionary from your main menu. Make sure it is set to **OPD**

Step 2: In Text Reader mode go to the '**Quick set**' menu and use '**Definition**' mode.

Explore these verbs:

daydreaming      thinking      frowning      persevere

4. Did you master this skill?      Yes ☐      No ☐

# The Helping Hand Detective Agency

## Sasha's Ideas

Sasha was thinking about her best friend, Eureka. He didn't talk very much. When he did have something to say, it was usually very interesting. They had been friends for a very long time. Sasha thought about how Eureka would persevere to solve a problem. She thought this was a very good skill.

Sasha was a chatterbox. She talked a lot. Sometimes she talked about more than one thing at once. She was always busy and juggled lots of ideas at the same time. Because of this, she could often get distracted and forget what she was doing. Eureka helped her to slow down and organise her thoughts.

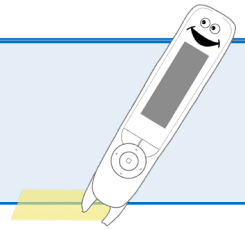
Together they had decided to set up a detective agency. They liked the idea of solving problems, helping people, and finding things that had been lost. They called it, 'The Helping Hand Detective Agency.'



Name:

Date:

This **Scan To File** activity is designed to be used with a ReaderPen. You will learn how to **Scan** text from a page **to** a computer **File**.  
Equipment Needed: computer, connecting/charging lead.



1. You are going to take the text from the story on your page and move it to a word document on your computer. Follow these instructions:  
Log into a computer and open a word document.  
While you are waiting re-read the story Sasha's Ideas.  
If logging in is taking a while check these word definitions with your dictionary.

juggle

distracted

organise

solve

2. Now connect your charging lead from your computer to the ReaderPen .

The menu on your pen will ask you if you would like to choose:

Keyboard

U-Disk

Charging

(Choose **Keyboard**)

Your pen will say: **Character Scanning**. You are ready to scan the text.

**Scan the whole story to the document on your computer and save it.**

3. Making changes. If you can see errors correct them.

Add the paragraph spaces. Make it look exactly like the story.

You are looking for and correcting errors. This is a skill called proof reading.

4. Now scan this section of text under the last paragraph.

Sasha is a fast thinker. She likes to make lists. This is her shopping list.

A loaf of bread, a packet of cheese, a big juicy tomato , apples.

Sasha also needed:

5. Add five more items to Sasha's list by typing them in.

Remember to add commas between the things in your list.

Well done. Add your name to your work. Save. Ask if you can print your work.

# The Helping Hand Detective Agency

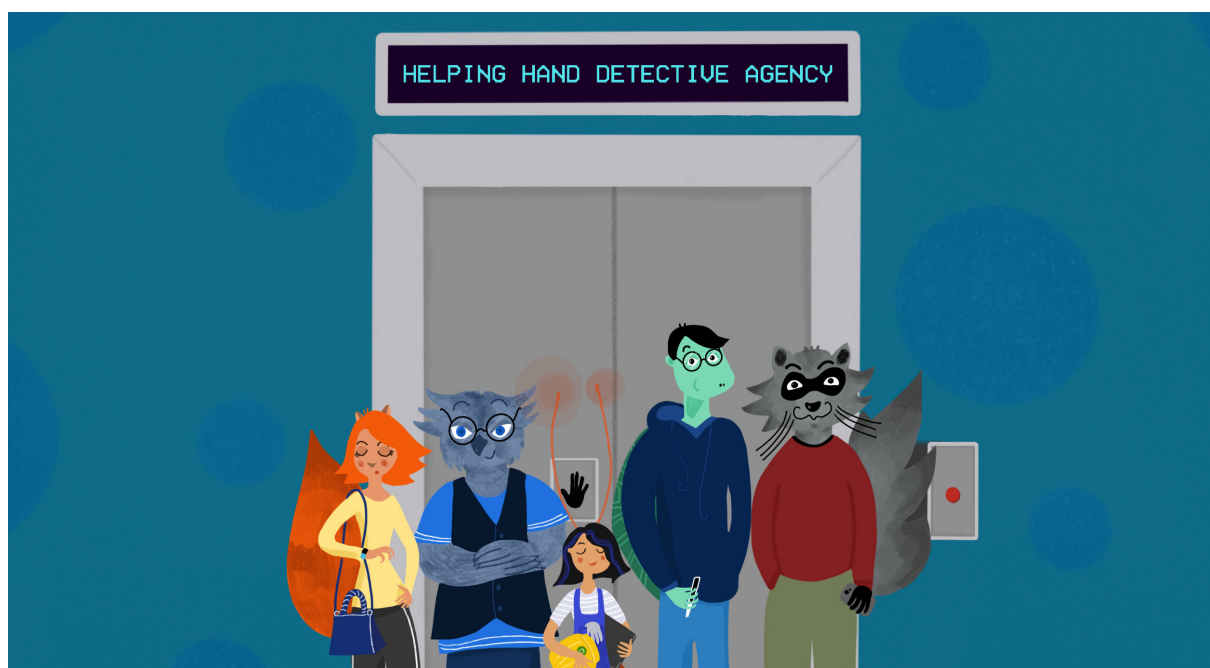
## The Spinnaker

The office of Helping Hand Detective Agency was situated in Portsmouth. It is a very busy seaport on the south coast of England. Ferries and ships loaded and unloaded their cargo all day long. Hundreds of people embarked and disembarked from the ferry terminals. Portsmouth's harbour was a busy, noisy place.

Towering above the docks was a huge observation platform shaped like a sail. It was called The Spinnaker.

Sasha loved to climb the tower and look through the glass deck at the sea. Below her, the boats looked as small as sherbet lemons. She liked to look at the old harbour where the ships, boats and barges were docked. She would imagine where all the people might be going to. She could also see HMS Victory which was Lord Nelson's flagship that helped to win the Battle of Trafalgar more than two hundred years ago.

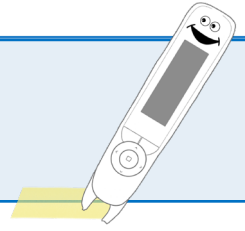
The Detective Agency Office was just off the main street in Portsmouth. It had a silver door with a silver plate in the shape of a hand in the middle of it. Sasha reached out towards the hand plate. As soon as she put her palm flat on the metal, a scanning beam read all the lines and fingerprints on her hand. A blue sign flashed. In a scrolling line of letters it said: 'Helping Hand Detective Agency' 'Identity Verified' – 'Welcome Sasha' and the door swished open.



Name:

Date:

This activity is designed for use with a ReaderPen.  
You are going to practice using the Scan to File feature.  
Equipment Needed: computer, connecting/charging lead.



1. Log into a computer and open a word document. Connect your Reader Pen.

The menu on your pen will ask you if you would like to choose:

Keyboard      U-Disk      Charging      **(Select Keyboard)**

When your pen shows: **Character Scanning** you are ready to start.

2. Scan in the Key Word List. After each word you scan, press the **enter** button.
3. Check the definitions of the Key Words using the dictionary function.
4. These words and definitions are in a muddle.

Draw a line to match the correct definition to each key word.

Key Word	Definition
situated	To get out of a boat or aircraft
unloaded	A place where ships can unload
port	A building for people to come and go from
cargo	To go on board a ship
embark	To be in a place or a position
Disembark	To take things off a carrier
terminals	A city or town with a harbour.
harbour	Goods carried in a ship or aircraft

5. In your open word document, type an explanation of what happens when ships arrive at a harbour. Use at least five of the Key Words that you have looked up.
6. Remember to write your name. Save your work. Ask if you can print your work.



# The Helping Hand Detective Agency

## Smart Watch

Sasha had forgotten her smart watch. She thought she had left it at the agency office, but she couldn't remember. She was beginning to feel anxious. She ran past Jinx Raccoon's Junk Shop and turned into the side alley. Impatiently she looked in her bag for her keys. Then she remembered, Eureka had made a new handprint door key. She held up her hand and the silver door opened. Behind the door was a small square room with polished silver walls. Sasha stepped in without looking inside and said, "up."

The lift went up quickly to the office above the Junk Shop. In the lobby was a small potted palm tree, two chairs and an Interactive Map of Portsmouth with the words, 'You are here' with an arrow that flashed gently.

She stepped into the office, put down her bag, turned on the kettle and looked around on her desk for her watch.

"Hello?" said a voice. It was Eureka.

"Hello?" said Sasha.

"Turn on the screen." said Eureka. Sasha turned on her computer screen.

Eureka's big face was staring at her. "Where have you been?"

"The boats were like sherbet lemons and Jinx has got a new car," said Sasha. "It's red."

"You forgot your watch didn't you!" said Eureka calmly.

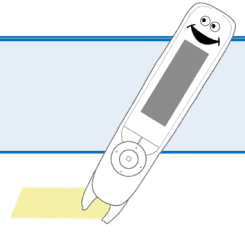
"Can we start again with one thought at a time please?"



Name:

Date:

This activity is a character analysis and also a self-reflection.  
Do you struggle to sit still and concentrate? Are you forgetful like Sasha?



We are going to think about **Sasha Squirrel**.

Tick if you think these statements are true or false for Sasha.

		True	False
1	Sasha blurts out her thoughts.		
2	She is forgetful and loses things.		
3	Sometimes she talks too much.		
4	Sasha does not have a sense of danger.		
5	She has a very creative imagination.		
6	Sasha is a good friend and a kind person.		
7	Running helps Sasha to use her extra energy.		
8	She is easily distracted.		
9	She is restless and needs to move.		
10	Sasha is quite impulsive – she acts before she thinks.		

Tick if these traits might be true or false for **you**.

		True	False
1	I blurt out my thoughts.		
2	I am forgetful and lose things.		
3	Sometimes I talk too much.		
4	I do not have a sense of danger.		
5	I have a very good creative imagination.		
6	I am a good friend and a kind person.		
7	Running helps me to use my extra energy.		
8	I am easily distracted.		
9	I am restless and need to move.		
10	I am quite impulsive - I act before I think.		

# The Helping Hand Detective Agency

## Connections

Sasha smiled and picked up her watch.

“Hey, Eureka. I thought I had forgotten my keys as well as my watch. I was so pleased when I saw our new door with the handprint recognition system. Now that really is a clever piece of problem solving.”

Eureka smiled at his friend. “We’ve got a message from Winston. It’s important. He’s lost.” Sasha looked at her Smart Watch. The battery was showing 1%. “My battery is flat. We need to use the map.”

Sasha swiped the office map. It flashed. ‘GPS. Locating friends.’

“Winston’s signal is coming from Egypt! How did he get there?”

Then another little blip appeared on the screen.

Now two little blips were flashing and they were close together.

“Hang on. Alyssa’s there too! She is only a mile away.”

Eureka scratched his head. “Really?” he exclaimed.

“I will send a message to Alyssa and give her Winston’s location, ” said Sasha.

She quickly jabbed the co-ordinates and sent them.

“This is all very strange Eureka, why are they in Egypt?”

Eureka frowned. He looked at his screen and pressed some buttons.

“Aha!” said Eureka.

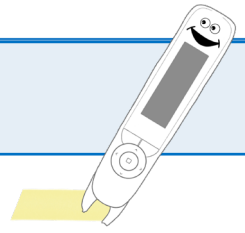


Name:

Date:

This activity is all about assistive technology.

AT (assistive technology) is equipment that helps us to work more easily.



Here are some helpful research terms to help you find out more:

Assistive Technology      Adaptive Technology      Ed Tech

Below are five assistive technologies that you might find in a classroom.

<b>ReaderPen</b>	Reads words aloud and gives dictionary definitions. It is also a recording device and can scan text to file.
<b>Speech to text apps</b>	This converts your spoken words to text and places it into a word document where you can proof read and edit it.
<b>Talking calculators</b>	Reads sums and numbers aloud. Very helpful if you jumble up numbers when you read or write them down.
<b>Graphic organisers</b>	These are mind maps that you can make on a computer. You can use images, words and text to help remember what you are learning. It is a good tool for revision.
<b>Audio books</b>	These are spoken word books. You can download them. They are very helpful if you find reading very tiring.

Make a list of three assistive technology tools that could help you to learn.

They could be real or imaginary.

A good way to do this is to think of something you find tricky  
then imagine a solution to your problem.

<b>My Problem:</b>	<b>My real or imaginary Assistive Technology Solution:</b>

# The Helping Hand Detective Agency

## Jinx's Car

Jinx stayed up late last night. He rubbed his eyes then he looked at his phone. He had turned it off the night before. He leant against a wall and admired his car. It was new – well, new to him.

It was a second-hand racer and worth a lot more than he'd paid for it.

He could tell it was a steal the moment he set his eyes on it.

The previous owner had said, "Her name is Belle and she is a bit special."

Jinx had smiled and held out his hand, "She certainly looks good to me," and he had struck a deal immediately.

Above the shiny radiator was an ornament. It was a silver eagle but Jinx decided that it looked more like a parrot, which made him smile.

He gave the paintwork one final wipe. Belle gleamed and Jinx beamed.

His new red and very shiny car was immaculate.

"Time to go for a ride," he thought. Jinx slid into the driver's seat, cradled his phone and switched it on. He ran his hands lovingly around the steering wheel. His phone connected to the car's Bluetooth system.

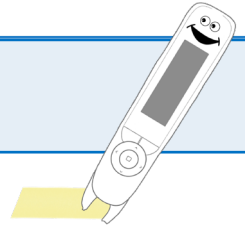
He sighed happily. Then suddenly, Whoosh!



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

This activity is designed for use with a ReaderPen.  
You will be using Text Reader, Dictionary and Recorder Functions.



1. Find out the dictionary definitions of these words.

admired

previous

immediately

ornament

radiator

immaculate

Which word means something that happened before? \_\_\_\_\_

Which word means completely clean? \_\_\_\_\_

2. Fluency Probe Activity:

Use the **recorder function**. Read Jinx's Car and save your recording.

Go to the Recorder in your Menu settings. Press **Record**

You are going to start reading – if you make a mistake keep going.

Don't worry if it goes wrong. You can take as much time as you like.

Press **OK** to record. Press **OK** to stop when you are finished.

Press the **ON/BACK** button to save your recording.

Did you notice the time it took you to read the story?

Look at the file. It shows the time next to the file number.

3. Write the **recording** number here \_\_\_\_\_ and the **time** here \_\_\_\_\_

Did you have any tricky words? Use your ReaderPen to listen to the tricky words.

Practise saying them back to yourself.

Are there any other words you do not know the meaning of? Look them up.

**Let's try the Fluency Probe again now that you are feeling more confident.**

Follow the instructions in the blue box and make a second recording.

Write the **recording** number here \_\_\_\_\_ and the **time** here \_\_\_\_\_

What do you think improved? Tick the things that seemed better.

My confidence		My understanding	It took less time to read		
---------------	--	------------------	---------------------------	--	--



**Well Done!**  
**You have completed The Helping Hand Detective Agency**  
**Series 1**

**You can use a ReaderPen to:**

- Record**
- Read text**
- Find and store words**
- Listen to another language**
- Move words on a page to a computer document**
- Find dictionary definitions in two very important dictionaries**

**Congratulations**



Name:

Date:

My Journey with The Helping Hand Detective Agency and My ReaderPen

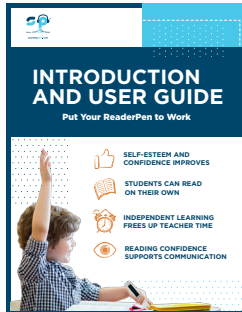
## Now I Can

Tick the box if you agree with the statements below.	✓ or x
Confidently take out my ReaderPen and get started on my own	
Scan a line of text with my ReaderPen and it will read back correctly	
Use my ReaderPen out loud and with headphones	
Use the Oxford Primary Dictionary (OPD) to look up a word	
Switch between OPD and Collins Dictionary for more information	
Find my list of dictionary words in the menu and practice them	
Make a single word bigger on the ReaderPen's screen	
Use the Recorder function to record my own ideas	
Play back recordings that I have made	
Use Text to File by connecting my ReaderPen to a computer	
Confidently explore ReaderPen's functions to make it do what I want	
Charge up my pen when the battery runs down by connecting to a computer	

## What do you think?

Easy Yes/No answers – Tell us what you think	YES	NO
This booklet helped me to understand how to use my ReaderPen.		
I am confident when using my ReaderPen.		
The characters in the stories remind me of people I know.		
I would like to do some more ReaderPen activities and find out other things that the pen can do.		
I would recommend working through this booklet to a friend.		

## Additional Resources



### Primary Introduction and User Guide



SCAN HERE TO VIEW!



### Webinars

Sign up to our virtual broadcasts to learn more about our range of educational resources and how our pens can support your students with additional support needs

Sign up today at [scanningpens.clickmeeting.com](https://scanningpens.clickmeeting.com)

We have created lots of content to support each step of a child's learning journey, discover more at:



**EXAMREADER™**

**READERPEN™**



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Sasha



Winston



Alyssa



Eureka



Jinx