

Special Days Stories (A2)

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Contents and Tips

Stories for special days contain the top 500 most common words in English, except for a few business terms that are not relevant to preschool and young primary.

Each story comes as an individual PDF document with:

- Table of contents
- Story texts in two versions – a basic version for complete beginners and a version with more vocabulary for children who have been learning English for a few years
- Lesson plan ideas for each story consisting of pre-story games to introduce the key vocabulary and phrases, ideas to use during story-telling and post-story activities
- A4 colour story illustrations
- Bingo set
- The story texts in large font to stick on the back of the relevant story illustrations if not displaying on an interactive whiteboard
- In some cases there is extra colouring, in addition to the black and white vocabulary flashcards

And in addition:

- Colour vocabulary flashcards are provided for all ten stories in three sizes. A4 or A5 for use in classroom games and small size for use with bingo or table top games.
- Grand vocabulary index for all thirty stories for reference to find out which story a word is first introduced and subsequent stories it appears in.

You'll find the preschool games book included with stories 1 to 10 helpful for use with the lesson plans, but not obligatory. If you have bigger groups or classes the primary games book is a good staple collection of games.

Pre-teach the key vocabulary using games before reading the story. The first time you read the story read it straight through. The children will be absorbed. On subsequent readings vary things a little each time, gradually involving the children more actively. Start with actions for certain words, chiming in with key lines, performing extracts or partial dialogues and eventually acting out the whole story.

Avoid competition until children are at least 7. There is no need to create losers so early. If using competition create winning teams rather than individuals.

It's more satisfying and effective to do fewer words or lines more fluently than make a meal out of trying too much at once. Six is a good number of new words to introduce in one go, though fewer are recommended for three year old beginners. If you have complete beginners please start with at least stories 1 to 20 rather than plunging in with these stories for special days.

If a story contains items that are unfamiliar to your class tell it anyway as it is, as the pictures explain the meaning, and it broadens your pupils' horizons. However retell the story with familiar items in place of the unknown ones for variety and increased relevance. For example in the Mother's Day card story replace the buttons, tie, earrings and make up brush with items your children would use every day.

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Birthday Party

Shapes, Present tense, What is it?

New vocabulary flashcards

Square	Rectangle	Oval
Circle	Triangle	Spaceship
Martian		

Other new vocabulary

Happy birthday	Great!	What is it?
Shape	What is it for?	Ah ha!
Surprise	Another	Picture
Listen!	Yummy (slang)	

Revision

Hello (Stories 1,4,9,13)	They (from 2)
Here is (from story 3 on)	Your (8)
Thank you (12,15,17,20)	Look! (16)
It is (from 3 on)	And (from 2)
Are (from 1)	In (from 4)
To look at (18)	Now (4,15)
His (from 3)	Let's (4)
Count (4)	Them (7,19)
How many ... are there? (16,18)	Can (1,7,13)
See (2,7,19)	Where (4)

Revision Flashcards : Find these flashcards with the story in brackets

To sing (8)	Cake (12)
Present (14)	Living room (12)

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Halloween

A tale of sharing with Household vocabulary and the simple past.

New vocabulary flashcards

Ghost	Witch	Fence
Door	Broom	Dustbin (UK) or Trash (US)
Sheet	Bag	Sweets

Other vocabulary

Simple Past Verbs:

Counted	Said	Opened
Got	Flew	Cried

Fell	Gave	Ran
Arrived	Went	Ate

Other:

We are going to	Scary (adj.)	Trick or treat (unique to Halloween)
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Revision

How many	Counting 1 to 6	Dress up (20)
Naughty		

Revision Flashcards

Cat (1)	Lady (6)	Garden (5)
Mother (11)	Brother (11)	Sister (11)

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Thanksgiving

Comparatives, Simple Past, Adjectives

New vocabulary flashcards

Adjectives :

Big / Small	Short / Long	Thick / Thin (use tree with Easter story)
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Nouns :

Airport	Plane	Turkey (live animal)
Bike	Mailbox	

Other vocabulary

Simple Past Verbs :

Sat	Were	Heard
Went (Halloween)	Said (Halloween)	

Comparatives :

Bigger	Longer	Thicker
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Other :

Before	Too late
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Revision Flashcards

Boots (20)	Dress (19)	Family (11)
Hole (17)		

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Christmas

Present Tense, Present Continuous

New vocabulary flashcards

Christmas tree	Reindeer	Christmas lights
Christmas day	Presents	Christmas eve
Carol singers	Sleigh	Christmas stockings
Father Christmas	Turkey (meat)	Christmas pudding

Plus optional flashcards for this extra vocabulary, visible in story illustrations but not in the text:

Holly	Mistletoe	Christmas decorations
Christmas Crackers		

Revision Flashcards

Pony (2)	Presents (4)
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Groundhog Day

Daily Routine, Simple Past, Hibernation

New vocabulary flashcards

Shadow	Breakfast	Groundhog (US) or marmot (UK)
Town	People	
To wake up	To get up	To eat breakfast
To wash your face	To brush your teeth	

Other vocabulary

Simple Past Verbs :

Laughed	Sang	Came
Shouted	Threw	Made
Washed	Brushed	Was
Asked	Looked	Saw
Thought	Ate (Halloween)	Went (Halloween)
Cried (Halloween)	Ran (Halloween)	

Other: You have been asleep

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Valentine's Day

Simple Past, Countries

New vocabulary flashcards

Pirate	Parrot	Valentine's Day card
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Sea/ocean Morning	Sails Evening	Anchor Sun
America Barbados and Tahiti: Use story pictures for these	France	
Happy	Sad	Beautiful girl
To love		

Other vocabulary

Atlantic, Caribbean, Pacific, Mediterranean

I love you Why no it's not	It must be Oh drat!	Guess who?
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Simple past :

Received Thought, looked, asked (Groundhog Day)	Read	Knew	Found
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Easter Prepositions

New vocabulary flashcards

Prepositions :

across	in	next to	under
behind	in between	on	up
in front of	into	out	

Nouns :

Pot	Tree	Bunny	Egg
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Three REPEAT flashcards from story four, pictures are different but noun is the same:

Bush	Flowers	Pond
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Other vocabulary

Happy (Valentine's Day)	Happy Easter
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To hide (4)	To find (found)
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Girl	Boy	Morning (Christmas Story)
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Verbs:

This story includes a mix of tenses including the simple past, the present tense, future with "those eggs we will find" and past perfect "had been".

Revision Flashcards

Bush (4) Flowers (4) Pond (4)
Garden (5)
Blue, green, red, yellow (3)

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April Fools' Day Simple Past

New vocabulary flashcards

Cornflakes Salt Honey
Chocolate Shampoo Golf clubs
Socks Water

Other vocabulary

Yuk!

Simple past :

Woke up Tied Put
Went (Halloween) Laughed, shouted (Groundhog)

Revision

Excited (Christmas) Surprise (Birthday) Trick (Halloween)

Revision Flashcards

Boots (20) Breakfast (Groundhog) Family (11)

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Mother's Day Present Perfect

New vocabulary flashcards

Bracelet Buttons Earrings
Tie Make up brush

Present perfect :

I have lost my Have you seen? No I haven't.

Present continuous :

I am helping

Summer Holiday

Past Simple, Past Continuous

New vocabulary flashcards

Canoe	Lake	River
Cup	Mermaid	Ring
Crocodile	Treasure	Rock
Elf	Treasure Map	

Other vocabulary

Secret word

Past continuous :

Were looking	Were crossing	Were waking up
Was waiting	Was dancing	

Irregular simple past :

Was	Were	Had
Did	Saw	Let
Went	Said	Took

Regular simple past :

Whispered	Reached	Asked
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Revision

I'm hungry and I'm going to eat you! (1)
Would you like? (9)
Come in (11)

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Other Resources

"Special Days" Stories have a matching songs CD (or downloadable version) with masks of the characters in the stories.

1. 15 x Songs & Masks for Special Days in the Year



www.teachingenglishgames.com/eslsongs3.htm

2 & 3 Preschool Games and Stories 1 to 10 with songs

Ten stories covering basic vocabulary themes and useful vocabulary with a fun games book for preschoolers and young primary.



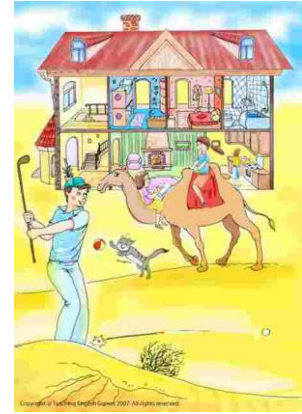
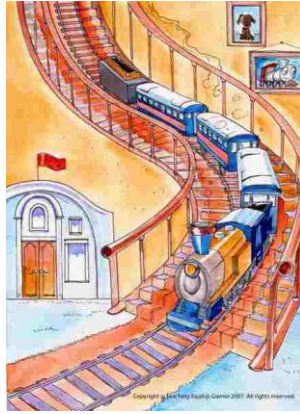
www.teachingenglishgames.com/3-5.htm



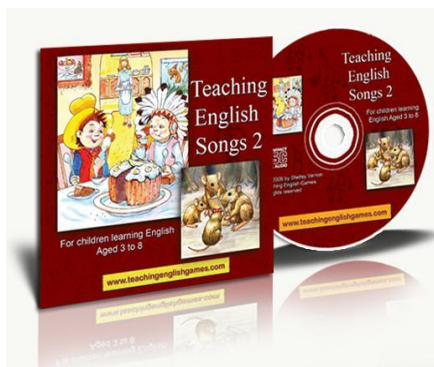
With Songs and Masks of Story Characters and Songs Activity Book

4. 10 x Follow-on Stories 11 to 20 with Lesson Plans

More stories covering actions, family members, rooms of the house, nature, light and dark, verbs, farm animals, body parts, clothing and other useful vocabulary.



<http://www.teachingenglishgames.com/3-5/preschoolstories.htm>



5. Teaching English Songs 2 CD or Download

More songs to go with stories 11 to 20 with the songs, karaoke version and masks of the characters.

Masks of the characters for acting out songs and stories included.

CD by post or downloadable

<http://www.teachingenglishgames.com/eslsongs.htm>

6. Plays and Skits for Children



Plays and skits for small groups up to 15 students.

Also for use one on one.

For beginners aged 4 to 12.

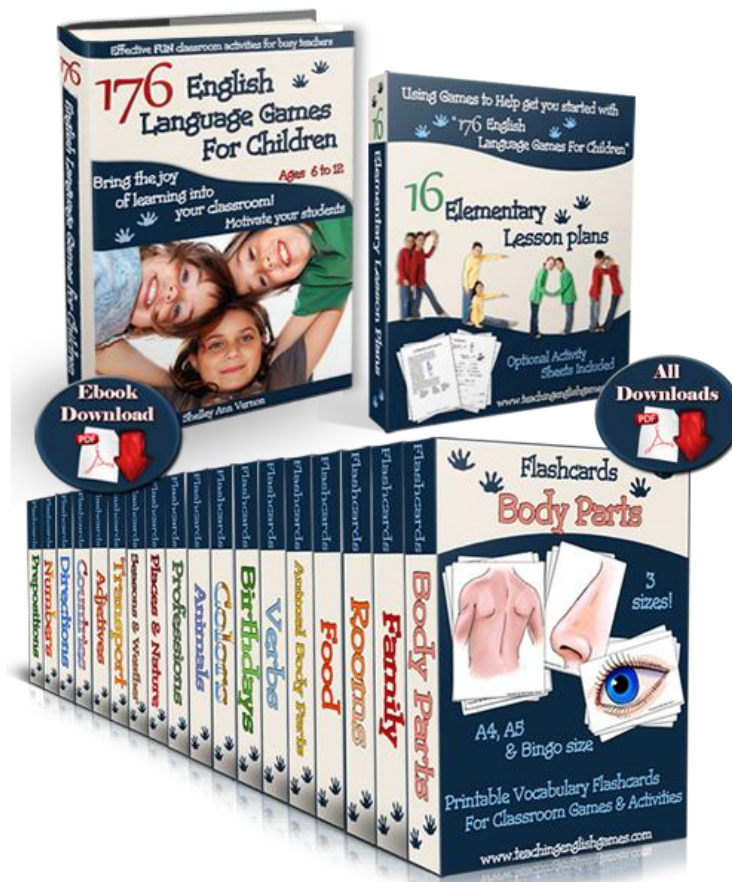
Simple repetitive skits with a touch of humour.

Easily adapted to higher levels.

<http://www.teachingenglishgames.com/eslplays.htm>

7. Primary games book, flashcards and lesson plans

- Games book for children aged 6 to 12, handling all class sizes. If you have very big preschool groups and you need more games for large classes this book would help.
- Over six hundred printable flashcards in vocabulary themes, in three sizes, and being added to all the time.
- Elementary lesson plans to help get teachers started using games.



<http://www.teachingenglishgames.com/4-12.htm>

8. Teen/Adult Games book

This includes games and activities for higher levels. Printable board games and game cards are provided to keep preparation to a minimum.

<http://www.teachingenglishgames.com/4-12.htm>

9. One to One Games and Video

- Games for private tutors and parents
- With video demonstrations
- For ages 4 to 12

<http://www.homeenglishteacher.com> Top

Printing and Copyright

This book is designed to be easy to use onscreen via the links from the table of contents and the detailed index.

Should you choose to print it, it is written in an ecological font with tiny holes in it to save ink.

PRINTING TIPS

To use much less ink and print everything quicker print in colour but always selecting draft or economy ink setting.

To find that option:

1. Open the document you want to print
2. Select FILE then PRINT and your printer menu will open.
3. Look for SETTINGS or PREFERENCES and select draft or economy.

The wording may vary depending on your printer, but this option will be there.

It's best to print in sections, such as ten pages at a time so that if your printer chews up a page you won't be in a total mess!

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