

Sealight Books

Primary School Introductory Issue

Quality Comics and Graphic Novels for Educational and Public Libraries

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Welcome to Sealight Books' Introductory Newsletter for Primary Schools. This issue is intended to serve as an introduction to the world of Graphic Novels (otherwise known as comic books) and how they can benefit reluctant readers within the school environment or add to the diversity of established readers' reading base.

The main portion of this newsletter is an annotated list of titles that serve as a diverse introduction to the medium, suitable for primary school students with an emphasis on appropriate vocabulary, complex and insightful plot, polished artwork and tight storytelling structure. But first a little background reading...

A Short Summary of Comics in Libraries

Graphic novels have been around for many years and have developed a number of reputations (not all of them positive). Despite a report about comics published in the 1950's in the United States called "The Seduction of the Innocent" (Dr Frederic Wertham, 1954) which purported that comics lead to juvenile delinquency, the medium has emerged from decades of disregard to become a celebrated tool for promoting and encouraging literacy.

In *Every Person A Reader* (Language Education Assocs, 1996) Dr. Steven Krashen (a guru of literacy in schools) supports the inclusion of graphic novels in school libraries. He argues that free voluntary reading for pleasure is one of the best ways to encourage improvements and interest in reading, citing several studies to back him up on this theory. He notes "boys who did more comic book reading also read more in general, read more books, and reported that they liked reading better than those who did less comic book reading."

About Sealight Books

Sealight Books is based in South-East Queensland, Australia and specialises in selling Graphic Novels to Public and Educational Libraries. Sealight Books is managed by a qualified librarian and we pride ourselves in providing a comprehensive service for:

Libraries who wish to establish a new graphic novel collection

Libraries who wish to expand their established collection of graphic novels in a balanced and thorough way.

We source the highest quality Graphic Novels from distributors locally and overseas and can help libraries make the best possible selection of titles. If you require more assistance please do not hesitate to contact us. For discounts and other terms of trade please see page three. Enjoy your read!

Inger Fountain- Sealight Books



Notable Quotes about Comics and Graphic Novels

"One of the things I am very grateful to my father for is that, contrary to conventional principles, he allowed me to read comics. I think that is how I developed a love for English and for reading"

*-Bishop Desmond Tutu,
Nobel Prize Winner*

"Children like to read comic books. If school libraries can provide something that children like to read, more reading will occur. As more reading occurs, reading skills will improve. The time has come for administrators, librarians, teachers and parents to give consideration to the inclusion of comic books in the educational environment and as part of the school library collection."

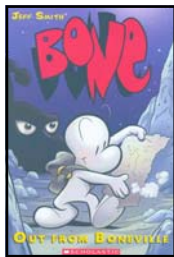
*-Larry D. Donnell
School Library Journal*

"Fact: The average comic book introduces children to nearly twice as many words as the average children's book and more than five times as many as the average child-adult conversation."

*-(from a 1993 study published in
The Journal of Child Language)*

Bone by Jeff Smith-Suitable for all year levels

Series overview: Bone is an all-ages fantasy series that is currently printed in thirteen different languages around the world and has garnered praise from fans and critics alike.

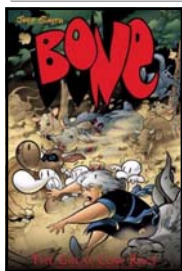


Bone Vol 1: Out From Boneville

ISBN 0439706408. Paperback. \$19.90 Colour 142p

After being run out of Boneville, the three Bone cousins, Fone Bone, Phoney Bone and Smiley Bone, are separated and lost in a vast uncharted desert. One by one, they find their way into a deep, forested valley filled with wonderful and terrifying creatures.

“One of the most acclaimed new comics of recent years, *Bone* is a Tolkien-meets-Pogo fantasy about the Bone cousins, who leave their home, Boneville, for adventures in the outside world.”
Booklist



Bone Vol 2: The Great Cow Race

ISBN 0439706394. Paperback. \$32.15
Colour 136p

The Bone cousins are reunited but soon encounter trouble when Phoney dresses Smiley up in a cow suit to take on Grandma Ben in The Great Cow Race. Fone meanwhile is hopelessly in love with Thorn. The hilarious calm before the storm.

“Kids and adults love the Bone series because of its likeable characters and simple, straightforward storyline.”
School Library Journal.

Leave It to Chance by James Robinson-Suitable for all year levels

Series overview: Chance is the daughter of the most prominent super-natural detective in the city of Devil’s Echo and delights in solving mysteries of her own. [Hardcover and Oversized.](#)

Leave It to Chance Vol 1: Shaman’s Rain

ISBN 1-58240-253-1. Hardcover. \$29.90 Full Colour 112p

Its her fourteenth birthday and Chance Falconer, daughter of world famous paranormal investigator Lucas Falconer, has only one thing on her mind: to follow in her father’s footsteps as his rightful successor as a defender against the super-natural. But her father has other plans as this is no job for a girl.

Leave It To Chance Vol 2: Trick or Threat

ISBN 1-58240-278-7. Hardcover. \$29.90 Full Colour 104p

Leave It To Chance Vol 3: Monster Madness

ISBN 1582402981. Hardcover. \$29.90 Full Colour 112p



Disney Adventures by Various -Suitable for all year levels

Donald Duck, Mickey Mouse, Uncle Scrooge. These names are synonymous with comics and cartoons the world over. Out of print for about a decade, these comics have finally become available to young audiences again. Classics by such luminaries as Carl Barks and Floyd Gutterson are being reprinted in full colour and complemented by all new stories from modern authors and artists. The stories themselves are long enough to engage the imagination and full of the usual Disney humour.

Donald Duck Adventures Vol 1 ISBN: 0911903100 128p Softcover Full Colour \$15.90

Donald Duck Adventures Vol 2 ISBN: 0911903119 128p Softcover Full Colour \$15.90

Donald Duck Adventures Vol 3 ISBN: 0911903127 128p Softcover Full Colour \$15.90

Donald Duck Adventures Vol 4 ISBN: 0911903267 128p Softcover Full Colour \$15.90

Donald Duck Adventures Vol 5 ISBN: 0911903275 128p Softcover Full Colour \$15.90

Donald Duck Adventures Vol 6 ISBN: 0911903461 128p Softcover Full Colour \$15.90

Donald Duck Adventures Vol 7 ISBN:091190347X 128p Softcover Full Colour \$15.90

Donald Duck Adventures Vol 8 ISBN: 0911903526 128p Softcover Full Colour \$15.90

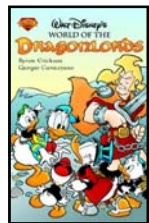
Mickey Mouse Adventures Vol 1 ISBN: 0911903488 128p Softcover Full Colour \$15.90

Mickey Mouse Adventures Vol 2 ISBN: 0911903690 128p Softcover Full Colour \$15.90

Mickey Mouse Adventures Vol 3 ISBN: 0911903909 128p Softcover Full Colour \$15.90

Mickey Mouse Adventures Vol 4 ISBN: 0911903917 128p Softcover Full Colour \$15.90

Mickey Mouse Adventures Vol 5 ISBN: 0911903704 128p Softcover Full Colour \$15.90



World of the Dragonlords ISBN: 0911903984 183p Softcover Full Colour \$25.90

Starring Huey, Dewey and Louie this adventure story told over 10 chapters mixes fantasy elements with the Duckburg humour we know and love. Uncle Scrooge, Donald Duck and the three young ducks are thrust into an alternate dimension where humans lead a feudal existence and are slaves to a barbarian race of dragon riders.

Superhero Adventures by Various-Suitable for all year levels

Series overview: Based on the animated series' of the same name the Batman/Superman/JLA Adventures series are a light hearted look at the spandex wearing super-heroes.



Justice League Adventures Volume 1: The Magnificent Seven ISBN 1401201792. Paperback. \$15.30 Full Colour 112p
Justice League Adventures Volume 2: Friends and Foes ISBN 1401201806. Paperback. \$15.30 Full Colour 112p

The Justice League consists of the most famous super-heroes from the DC Universe including Batman, Superman and Wonder Woman. They are all amazing characters on their own but how do they manage working as a team? Is it a case of synergy or people stepping on each other's toes (and if that person is Superman it could really hurt!). This is a wonderful look at team work and how a particular character's strengths or weakness can affect the workings of a team. The world's greatest super-heroes are here! Join Superman, Batman, Wonder Woman, The Flash, Green Lantern, Martian Manhunter and Hawkgirl as they battle against villainy from all corners of the globe (and beyond!) in these action-packed stories.



Batman Adventures Volume 1: The Rogues' Gallery ISBN 1401203299. Paperback. \$15.30 Full Colour 112p
Batman Adventures Volume 2: Shadows and Masks ISBN 1401201784. Paperback. \$15.30 Full Colour 112p

A lighthearted look at the Dark Knight of Gotham City. They may be short but these tales are very cleverly written- the dialogue is tight and the pacing superb. Like the others in this series Batman Adventures may look like kids reading but it contains enough substance and action to entertain any adult and have been written by some of the best writers in the industry. Gotham City's greatest villains - including The Joker, Harley Quinn, Catwoman, The Penguin, Poison Ivy, and Ra's al Ghul - all take a turn against the World's Greatest Detective in these seriously shadowy tales. A deadly new gang is threatening Gotham City and it's up to the Dark Knight to take it down, from the inside.



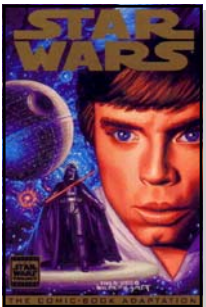
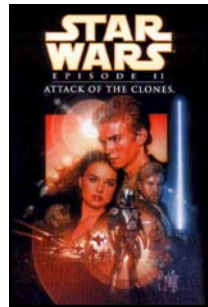
Superman Adventures Vol 1: Up Up and Away ISBN:1401203310 112p Softcover Full Colour \$14.95
Superman Adventures Vol 2: The Never-Ending Battle ISBN: 1401203329 112p Softcover Full Colour \$14.95

It's a full-time job protecting both the city of Metropolis and the rest of the world - work that only the Man of Steel could take on! From the evil schemes of the monomaniacal Lex Luthor to the diabolical machinations of the crazed super-computer Brainiac, the Last Son of Krypton battles all comers in these Earth-shaking tales.

Star Wars by George Lucas-Suitable for all year levels

Series overview: Star Wars is a well known space saga centering on the lives of the Skywalker family.

Listed titles are adaptations of the movies



Star Wars: The Phantom Menace
 ISBN 1-56971-359-6.
 Paperback. \$25.90
 Full Colour 112p

Every saga has a beginning... This volume tells the origins of the Star Wars saga with a young Anakin Skywalker starting on the path to becoming a Jedi. The blockade of the planet Naboo by the Trade Federation is just a pawn in a larger quest for power and Anakin is drawn into complex intergalactic intrigue.

Star Wars: Attack of the Clones
 ISBN 1-56971-609-9.
 Paperback. \$38.60
 Full Colour 144p

Ten years after the events of the Phantom Menace Anakin is now a Jedi Padawan, assigned to protect old friend Padme Amidala from an assassination attempt. Anakin's move towards the Darkside begins as he breaks the seminal Jedi rule forbidding them to love. The stage is set for Anakin to become Darth Vader.

Star Wars: Revenge of the Sith
 ISBN 1593073097.
 Paperback. \$25.90
 Full Colour 96p

The action of the Clone Wars comes to a dramatic conclusion, and events are put in place for A New Hope. This is the film that answers the questions, How did Anakin succumb to the dark side? What happened to Luke and Leia's mother? And why are there no Jedi around in the original Trilogy?

Star Wars : A New Hope
 ISBN 1-56971-213-1
 Paperback. \$19.90
 Full Colour 104p

Young farmboy Luke Skywalker yearns to escape his mundane life on Tatooine under the watchful gaze of his Uncle. With the arrival of two new droids Luke is caught up in the battle between good and evil in a fight to save the universe from the forces of The Empire.

Star Wars: The Empire Strikes Back
 ISBN 1-56971-234-4.
 Paperback. \$19.90
 Full Colour 104p

After their victory over the Empire the Rebels, with Luke Skywalker in tow, are pursued across the galaxy by Imperial Forces. Luke journeys to Dagobah to train in the Force with a mysterious Jedi Master. The Empire gains the upper hand as Luke's friends are held hostage by Darth Vader.

Star Wars : Return of the Jedi
 ISBN 1-56971-087-2.
 Paperback. \$19.90
 Full Colour 104p

Luke Skywalker and friends must journey again to Tatooine to rescue Han Solo from the clutches of the vile gangster Jabba The Hutt. But an even greater danger emerges with the construction of a new Death Star and Luke's final confrontation with his father, Darth Vader.

Terms of Trade

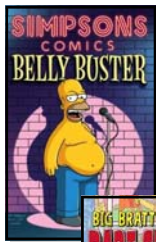
Graphic Novel Orders Attract the following discounts:

- Under \$300—5%
- \$301-\$1000—10%
- \$1001-\$2500—15%
- \$2501 and Upwards—20%

*****All prices Include GST***Orders over \$200 include free postage*****

The Simpsons- Suitable for all year levels

The Simpsons are a dysfunctional family from the fictional town of Springfield and their popularity with younger audiences is hard to deny. The comics feature all the popular characters from the hit television series including Bart, Homer, Marge and Lisa together with Itchy and Scratchy, Krusty the Clown and Bartman.



Simpsons Belly Buster

ISBN: 0060587504 Softcover \$29.90

Full Colour 176 pages

Lisa joins a babysitter's union only to uncover an insidious plot against the youth of Springfield; Homer "steals" Ned Flanders's swimming pool, leading to a full-scale siege on Evergreen Terrace. And more stories to bust your gut.



Big Bratty Book of Bart

ISBN: 0060721782 Softcover \$25.90

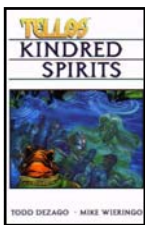
Full Colour 120 pages

Join Bart and the kids of Springfield in the newest collection of comics and stories filled with mistaken identities, alien recipes, cereal package prizes, unrequited love, lima beans, facial hair, karaoke, etc It's all here in one bratty book.

Other Titles of Note

Tellos by Todd Dezago -Suitable for Upper Primary

Series overview: A fantasy comic with a wonderful and dramatic twist in the second volume.



Tellos Vol 1: Reluctant Heroes

ISBN 1582401861. Softcover. \$35.90 Full Colour 152p

Tellos is cleverly described as being for those who are leaving Harry Potter on their way to Tolkien via Narnia. A delightful adventure series with talking tigers, pirate queens, magical swords and a young boy's quest that will fire the imagination and delight the senses of all readers. Watch for the images foreshadowing the dramatic twist at the end.

Tellos Vol 2: Kindred Spirits

ISBN 1582402310. Softcover. \$35.90 Full Colour 152p

Akiko: The Menace of Alia Rellapor Volumes 1- 3

Vol 1 ISBN: 1579890679

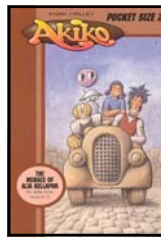
Vol 2 ISBN: 1579890687

Vol 3 ISBN: 1579890695

Paperback. 190p each

B&W Digest Size

\$19.90-\$21.90 each



Sky Pirates! Sleslup Worms! Ice Cream trucks in outer space! These are just a few of the weird and wondrous things that await fourth grade schoolgirl Akiko on her summer holidays. Summer vacation has only just begun as she is whisked off to a distant galaxy and placed in charge of a perilous mission on the planet Smoo. All-ages fun with a strong female role-model.

Neotopia

Volumes 1- 4

Vol 1 ISBN:1932453571

Vol 2 ISBN:193245358X

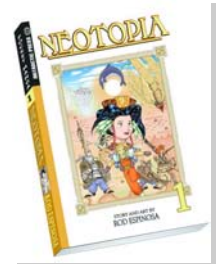
Vol 3 ISBN:193245375X

Vol 4 ISBN:1932453857

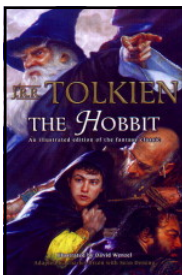
Paperback. 190p each

Full Colour Digest Size

\$19.90 each



In a world where Man has finally learned to exist in harmony with Nature, the citizens of Mathenia live happily under their beloved Grand Duchess. Unknown to them, she is Nalyn, a commoner impersonating Nydia, the real Duchess. When Nalyn is kidnapped by an enemy country bent on bringing back the age of technological excess, she is forced to lead her country to war.



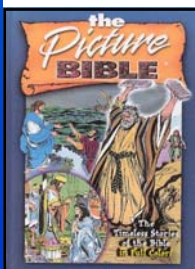
The Hobbit Graphic Novel

ISBN: 0-2611026-6-4

Paperback. \$27.95

Full Colour 144p

The graphic novel based on Tolkien's prequel to The Lord Of The Rings needs no introduction, except to say that the story is well served in this format. The adaptation is dense with description and dialogue and the illustrations add mood to Tolkien's vision. A highly recommended addition to any Library's collection.



The Picture Bible

ISBN: 0781430550

Paperback. \$29.95

Full Colour 800p Hardcover

For years, The Picture Bible has delighted young and old. Now updated with interesting new features, including "Did you know?" fact pages, time line, story listing, maps, and more, kids will love the great stories and action pictures of the newly revised Picture Bible. Newly designed with a fresh cover, text, and maps, this Scripture makes an ideal first Bible for young readers.