

# The UK's only primary literacy magazine with ready-to-use resources –

## Inside this month's TLC Kids 7 to 11



**TLC** Teacher 7 to 11,  
Issue 1, Spring term

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**Teachers' Notes, Ideas for Parents and Activity sheets by:** Mim Barnes, Fiona Freer, Jennifer Jenkins, Richard Monte, Joy Redrup, Rebecca Wallis and Helen Watts.

**Cry Wolf** online activity sheet by **Eric Finney**, © Eric Finney, 2010.

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The Literacy Club

### NON-FICTION:

**Journalistic writing – A tricky day for the truth** by Rebecca Wallis.

A magazine-style feature exploring the history of April Fools' Day and describing some of the most famous – and the funniest – tricks of all time. Complete with an April Fool story newspaper cutting.



**Information text – Let's hear it for the daffodil!** by David Clayton.

A guide to the flower which has become a symbol of Spring, with details on its history, its uses and its significance in literature – from ancient Greek myths to Wordsworth's classic poem. Download the complete 'I wandered lonely as a cloud' from TLC Online.



**Recount – Some pig!** by Philip Ardagh

A comical recount of the part played by an unsuspecting pig during a siege at the ancient fortress of Carcassonne in AD 795, plus the origins of some common sayings and phrases.



### Brain-tickling puzzles

by Helen Watts  
Three alphabet and word puzzles, including some famous sayings about spring to decipher. A downloadable answer sheet is available at TLC Online.



### Reviews

Book reviews by Nathan Green, age 12, and Georgia Yeomans, age 9. Plus Editor's Pick.



### NARRATIVE:

**Humorous short story – Three Foolish Fishermen**

by Maggie Pearson.  
Illustrated by Daria Petrilli/Beehive Illustration.

A cautionary tale of three sea fisherman whose foolish desire for gold leads them to a watery end.



**Traditional tale – The Prince and the White Eagle**

by Richard Monte.  
Illustrated by Vladimir Aleksic/Beehive Illustration.

In this mix of legend and folk tale, Richard Monte explains the founding of Poland and how the eagle came to represent this beautiful country.



### POETRY:

**Shape poem – Springburst** by John Travers Moore.

A seasonal poem in the shape of a flower coming into bloom – to be read from the bottom up!



**Humorous poems and word play – A triple helping of April Fool,**

featuring *April Fool in School* by Ian Bland.  
Three fun little poems, perfect for April Fools' Day.



**Poems in other forms – Cry Wolf** by Eric Finney (after Aesop). Illustrated by Steve Way.

Aesop's ancient fable gets a modern-day twist with a mix of rhyming verse and comic strip presentation.



# TLC Teacher


Inside this issue of TLC Teacher...



## REGULARS:

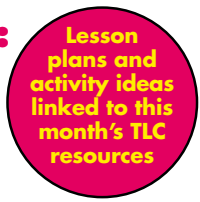
- 4 Editor's Column** – Helen Watts welcomes you to the launch issue of *TLC Teacher*.
- 4 Opinion** – Headteacher and writer Huw Thomas asks, 'Is literacy dead?'
- 5 News & Events** – What's happening in the world of primary literacy, PLUS Diary Dates.
- 24 TLC recommends** – TLC's pick of the best books and literacy resources for ages 7 to 11.
- 26 Planning chart** – Add a touch of TLC to your planning with this guide to the resources in this month's *TLC Kids* and online.
- 27 Coming soon** at TLC and Subscription details.

## FEATURES:

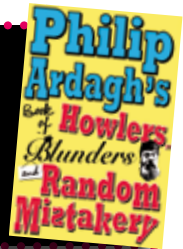
- 6 Take an imaginary trip to Poland** – Author, Richard Monte reveals how much can be gleaned from Polish traditional tales.
- 8 Glasgow's Poetry Moles** – John Rice has been taking some primary school children down to the subway for an inspirational poetry-writing project.
- 14 Topical literacy** – A pull-out spread of literacy activities on the theme of *Spring festivals*, from Alison L R Davies.  accompanied by a downloadable *Spring festivals* fact sheet.

## TEACHERS' NOTES:

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Find out how you could **WIN** one of **10 copies** of Philip Ardagh's *Book of Howlers, Blunders and Random Mistakery* (Macmillan Children's Books). See page 25.

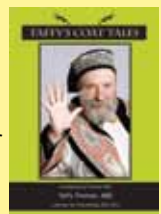


## This month @ TLC Online -

### Celebrating storytelling



In January this year, Taffy Thomas, MBE, was awarded the honorary position of the nation's first Laureate for Storytelling. A compilation of some of the storyteller's favourite tales has been published in paperback by The Literacy Club. **Taffy's Coat Tales** (£7.99 pbk, ISBN 978-0-9564716-0-4) is a 96-page collection to be treasured by both children and adults. The book is available to order from [www.theliteracyclub.com](http://www.theliteracyclub.com)



To complement the book, a range of FREE literacy resources are available to you on the TLC website. These include: **Three Tales from Taffy's Coat** – Audio versions of *The Clever Wish*, *The Cobblestone Maker* and *Coyote and the Fire Witch*, told and performed by Taffy.

**The Magic Beans – A sentence sequencing game** linked to the first of seven special gifts given to Taffy as part of his Laureateship. Look out for more games in this series in the coming months.

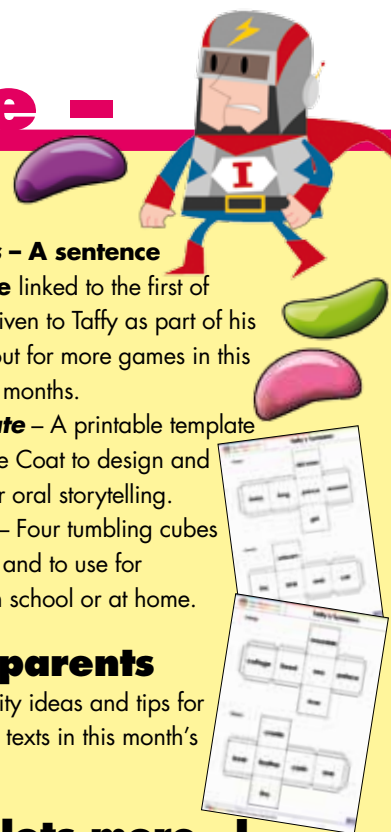
**Tale Coat Template** – A printable template of Taffy's famous Tale Coat to design and use as inspiration for oral storytelling.

**Taffy's Tumblers** – Four tumbling cubes to cut out and make and to use for storytelling games in school or at home.

### Ideas for parents

Downloadable activity ideas and tips for parents linked to the texts in this month's *TLC Kids*.

Plus lots, lots more...!



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