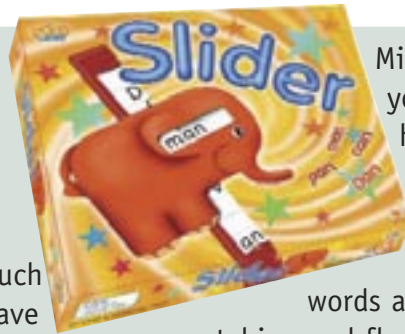


The Pops Family

A series of books and games by Marie Dunleavy

Daniel Houliston is ten years old. He has the reading ability of a much older child. He also happens to have Down's syndrome. His amazing reading success is down to his mother, Marie Dunleavy, and her inspired teaching methods.

After many frustrated attempts to teach him to read, she devised her own system that had such outstanding results, she was soon asked to help other children. So she created the Pops Family – a wonderful series of books and games aimed specifically at teaching children with special needs to read. Short for Plenty of Potential, the stories revolve around a family of six – Mum, Dad,



Milly, Ben, Don and Kal, the youngest, who, like Daniel, has Down's syndrome.

Each book introduces a prescribed number of functional and common words and uses repetition, word

matching and flash cards. The accompanying pictures are bright, simple and descriptive and relate exactly to the text.

On each page there is a little red elephant for the children to find, a series of words to match up and at the back of the book, a lotto pairing game.

The boxed games are used in conjunction with the books, but can also be used separately.

Like the books, the games are brightly coloured, repetitive, easy to use and involve both phonics and a selection of primary functional words.

The Red Elephant game, in particular, is very relevant to Montessori teaching as it works by putting a variety of letters together to make different phonic words. For example the word 'at' can be changed to cat, mat, bat etc by simply sliding the elephant up or down.

The POPS series is great aid to reading as it covers each topic from a variety of different angles and promotes success and confidence in the reader. It is fun and simple, yet intelligently laid out and rewarding for both child and teacher.

The books and games are available on line from www.pops-resources.com and retail from £13.99 per set to £28.99 per game.

For more information contact 0131 447 7747 or info@daneth.com

*Reviewed by Arlene Harris,
a Montessori teacher in Ireland.*



**Extract
from...**



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