

**Educational Software and Service
for the Primary School**
CATALOGUE January 1986



SHERSTON SOFTWARE

Sherston Software

Sherston Software has an established reputation for producing high quality educational software at reasonable prices.

Our programs have received an enthusiastic reception from over 2000 schools that have already purchased them.

We also offer a comprehensive backup service for our customers.

The Service

We believe the service we offer to schools is hard to beat. What other software house offers the following?

THREE WEEKS FREE APPROVAL FOR SCHOOLS

All our programs are available on **THREE WEEKS** free approval to schools and other educational establishments. See the last page for how to order.

MONEY BACK GUARANTEE FOR PRIVATE CUSTOMERS

Whilst our software is designed for schools it can equally well be used at home. However, private customers are not eligible for free approval and should send a cheque with their order. If they are not satisfied they can obtain a full refund, provided they return the programs within 21 days of despatch.

CASSETTE TO DISC EXCHANGE SERVICE

Thinking of upgrading to a disc drive? We will exchange any of our programs on cassette for disc versions for the difference in price (£1.50 + VAT) and a single administration charge of £2.50 + VAT.

CORRUPTED DISCS OR CASSETTES

Our software is protected to safeguard our copyright and it is not possible to make back up copies. However we will replace any corrupted discs or cassettes provided they are returned to us within **THREE YEARS** of purchase.

PROBLEMS AND ENQUIRIES

Simply ring us and we will be happy to try and sort them out for you.

PRICES

Our prices are as competitive as possible. We try to keep overheads as low as we can and pass savings on to our customers. **FOR PRICES PLEASE SEE THE LAST PAGE.**

The Programs

Our programs have been designed with the primary school classroom and busy teacher in mind and where appropriate include many useful features which are indicated by the symbols shown.



ELECTRONIC BLACK-BOARDS

Use your BBC micro as a sophisticated teaching aid. Electronic Blackboards allow the teacher to present the educational content of the program on screen in a manner and speed suitable to the group they are teaching. The 'Electronic Blackboards' are particularly helpful when used with the children before they work through the rest of the programs.



PRE-SELECTING PLAYERS AND GAMES

Type in the names of children to be called up to the computer and given a game or practice at any of the available levels of difficulty. Using this option the computer can be set up to run for a whole session without further teacher intervention.



TEACHER CONTROL

All programs are fully adjustable. Where appropriate speed, sound, levels of difficulty, number of retries, passwords etc. can be easily altered by the teacher if the normal settings are not required.



RECORD SECTIONS

You can see how children have performed at the end of a session, often with a detailed analysis to enable the teacher to pinpoint any problems.



DIAGNOSTIC TESTS

Use your BBC to help diagnose any difficulties your children may be having in phonic work.



TIME LIMITS

You can set the BBC to give each child, or group of children, a specified time at the computer.



NUMBER OF QUESTIONS

The number of questions given to each child, or group of children can be specified by the teacher.



NUMBER RANGE

In our maths programs the number range presented in the games can be specified by the teacher.

Language Programs Phonics

SHORT VOWEL SOUNDS: BBC Model B **Age Range 5 to 8 years**

Cassette and Disc

A very comprehensive program to practise short vowel sounds using simple words and pictures. The teacher can direct the program to test and practise at selected skill levels; options include diagnostic, practice and final assessment modes. The speed, number of retries and weighting on a particular vowel can all be altered. The program is well presented with large lettering, graphics and optional sound effects.



Review Comments

'It is extremely thorough . . . A diagnostic test precedes various practice options of different styles of presentation and increasing difficulty . . . The graphics are clear and, most usefully, considerable flexibility is allowed with vowel weighting, response time and the number of permitted retries.'

Primary Teaching and Micros. November 1984

'This is a very nice program indeed, good enough for hours of individual use in home, primary and remedial contexts.'

Computers in Schools. 1984

' . . . most exciting . . . really out of the ordinary.'

Educational Equipment. November 1984

MAGIC E: BBC Model B **Age Range 6 to 9 years**

Disc or Cassette

This program is intended to teach and practise 'Magic E' using simple words and pictures. It includes all the standard facilities and options available in 'Short Vowel Sounds' (see above).

Special features include:

A teaching section which is intended for use as an electronic blackboard. The short vowel sounds actually lengthen when Magic E appears providing a strong visual illustration of its effect.

A diagnostic section, using words and pictures which will record the results of up to five pupils for later reference.

Simple, non-distracting, graphic rewards in the harder practice modes.

A final assessment based on a story and utilizing a cloze type procedure.

Magic E is presented in large, colourful and easily read lettering with graphics and optional sound effects. It has received an extremely enthusiastic reception from teachers who have used it.



Review Comments

'These offerings are considerably more polished than many one comes across . . . it is at its best when it uses the BBC's graphics to give a good strong visual illustration of the magic effect. Children particularly enjoyed the sentence or story mode . . . It is among the best of a flood of programs of this type.'

Educational Computing. June 1984

'I'm not sure how you could substantially improve this program. Its structure and content is impressively thoughtful: a teaching section is followed by a diagnostic test which enables teachers to monitor and subsequently weigh the short and long practice sections with respect to particular vowels if this is needed.'

Primary Teaching Micros. November 1984

CONSONANT BLENDS: BBC Model B

Age Range 6 to 9 years

Cassette and Disc

Consonant Blends consists of two very comprehensive programs to teach, practise and test the initial consonant blends in reading. Consonant Blends 1 deals with bl, cl, gl, fl, pl, pr, br, tr, dr, cr, gr and fr. Consonant Blends 2 deals with sp, st, sc, sm, sn, sl, sk, sw and tw. Each program has three different types of game (all for one or two players) plus a diagnostic test. The Teacher Control menu in each program allows full adjustment of the blends used, number of retries, speed, password and sound. Special features include 'electronic blackboards' to use as a teaching aid and 'pre-defined players and games' which allows the teacher to set up the program to call up a series of up to ten sets of children to play specified games. Records are kept of all diagnostic tests. The programs have been carefully designed to be educationally sound and are presented in large, colourful lettering with pictures.



'Clear, well defined graphics . . . Good variety of teacher select options . . . Useful diagnostic section.'

Primary Teaching and Micros. July 1985

VOWEL DIGRAPHS: BBC Model B

Age Range 7 to 10 years



Cassette and Disc

This is the latest in our very successful range of phonic programs. 'Vowel Digraphs' consists of two programs to teach, practise and test the vowel digraphs in reading. 'Vowel Digraphs 1' deals with oo, ea, ee, ow, ou, oa, and ew. 'Vowel Digraphs 2' deals with ai, ay, au, aw, oi, oy, igh and y. The programs are presented in large colourful lettering with excellent pictures. The diagnostic test, games and final assessment all occur in a 'word factory'. Pupils must operate the shutter on a conveyor belt to select the correct combination of vowels to complete given words or sentences. The Teacher Control menu allows full adjustment of the digraphs used, number of retries, speed, password and sound. The Electronic Blackboards can be used as a teaching aid while the 'pre-defined players and games' option allows the teacher to set up the program to call up a series of up to ten sets of children to play specific games. Records are kept of all tests and games. 'Vowel Digraphs' maintains the educational standards and context of our previous phonic programs while adding the excitement of animation!



WORD BUILDER Mk II: BBC Model B

NEW**Disc**

Age Range 5 to 9 years

This is a completely revised version of our program 'Word Builder'. It includes the very comprehensive phonic lists that were included in the original version but has many, many more features including:-

'Wordchop' a very appealing, animated game for 1, 2 or 3 players. Children have to guide 'Mr Chop' to the right place and then split words into their phonic components. Corrections are given in a meaningful manner and in tests the game has proved to be very effective in helping children identify phonic sounds.

Two Electronic Blackboards for use with groups of children. The first builds up words on the screen exactly as the children should while the second presents the words as flashcards. It is recommended that these are used before children are allowed to play Wordchop.

A Teacher Control menu that allows teachers to:- set the direction of the build, edit existing phonic lists or create their own, pre-select players and lists, and also keeps records of all games played.

The phonic word lists included on disc range from initial consonants and short vowel sounds right through to vowel digraphs. 'Word Builder Mk II' has to be one of the most comprehensive phonic programs available!



Language Development

EASY TYPE: BBC Model B

NEW**Disc**

Age Range 5 to 9 years

This program was written by Margaret Hayball, the author of the popular 'Mr Yog and the Nippet'. It is an invaluable aid to the infant, lower junior and remedial teacher. Using 'Easy Type' the teacher can build a word list for each of his/her pupils that contains all the words in their look/say vocabulary. The list can be added to at any time as the child learns to recognise more words. It can be displayed on screen in large, lower case letters and by using only six keys, the pupil can select any of their words to build sentences, or simple stories, on the lower half of the screen. This provides a quick, easy and exciting way for the child to 'write'. This instant success is a confidence booster to even the most hesitant pupil. As the child progresses she can type in her own words and 'Easy Type' becomes an infant word processor. Linked to a printer the children's work can be printed out as many times as required. The program becomes even more versatile when used by the imaginative teacher to produce class word lists. For example:- Topic word lists, rhyming lists, lists of adjectives, verbs etc. for creative work, maths word lists (e.g. shapes) and so on . . . You are only limited by your own imagination!



INVISIBLE INK: BBC Model B

Age Range 7 to 13 years

Cassette and Disc

An exciting new program for junior schools. Invisible Ink is an intriguing game that offers practice in many aspects of reading, comprehension, spelling and grammar. It allows teachers to hide any part of a text for children to try and discover. Words, parts of words or even punctuation and numbers can be written in 'invisible ink'. Letter clues can be 'bought' from the computer and points are scored by correctly guessing what is written in 'invisible ink'. The program comes complete with a number of text files to illustrate its numerous uses. As new text files can easily be created by the teacher, Invisible Ink can be used to complement any language or topic work a class is doing. 'Ink Print' which accompanies Invisible Ink even allows printouts of the text you create, so that you can duplicate your own worksheets. Text is entered and saved in the comprehensive Teacher Control menu which also allows full adjustment of the sound, starting scores and time limits. It also allows teachers to enter the names of up to five groups of children to be called up to the computer to play the game and keeps records of all scores. In this way the program can easily be set up to 'run itself' for a lesson without further teacher interaction. Invisible Ink has received an extremely enthusiastic reception from teachers who have used it.



Review Comments

'... a rather different program to use for language development work in the primary classroom ... not just another cloze procedure program. It has all sorts of possibilities ... This is a really useful and feature laden program that allows teachers to use the computer to complement any language or topic work they are currently doing in the classroom'

Educational Computing. April 1985

'A good and useful program. Made all the better by the "create own files" option.'

Primary Teaching and Micros. May 1985

Maths Programs

MATHS SNAP: BBC Model B

Age Range 7 to 13 years

Cassette and Disc

A 'game' for 1, 2, 3 or 4 players to practise number bonds. Options include addition, subtraction (or both), multiplication and division (or both), all at five levels of difficulty. The time allowed and the number of questions per game can both be altered.



Review Comments

'An excellent arithmetical operations game for up to four players . . . I have no hesitation in saying you will not find many better programs of its type.'

Primary Teaching and Micros. November 1984

' . . . this computerised Maths Snap was certainly enjoyed by all those who played it. Teachers approved of how it encouraged quick responses that led to greater accuracy in number bonds and tables work . . . a real sharpener of wits and accuracy.'

Educational Computing. January 1984.

INFANT MATHS SNAP: BBC Model B

Cassette and Disc

Age Range 4 to 7 years

Infant Maths Snap has six different games to help children understand and learn about numbers up to 20. It consists of two programs. The first has four games in it dealing with sets, numbers and number names. The second has two games dealing with split sets showing simple addition and subtraction. All games can be played by one or two children. The Teacher Control menu in both programs allows full adjustment of the number range, time allowed, number of questions, number of games per player and sound. The programs include 'electronic blackboards' to use as a teaching aid and an option to pre-define players and games. This allows the teacher to set up the program to call a series of children, to play specified games at appropriate levels and keeps a record of their scores for the teacher to view. The programs are presented with colourful graphics and large lettering.



TENS & UNITS: BBC Model B



Disc

Age Range 6 to 9 years

This very comprehensive program has been designed to help children understand tens and units. It includes an animated teaching section where a set of 'units' is displayed on the screen and then divided into tens. Each ten is coloured differently by the child and then moved across the screen to form a tens column. By answering the questions and watching the animation children very quickly grasp the concept of place value. Corrections are given when required to help the learning process. The children can then progress through three colourful and exciting games designed to consolidate and extend their knowledge, culminating in the very popular 'Safe Cracker!' The numbers used in the program are presented in as many different ways as possible to promote understanding. The Teacher Control menu allows the program to be tailored to the needs of individual pupils and the Electronic Blackboards can be used for group tuition. In classroom tests 'Tens & Units' has proved to be very effective indeed.



WIZARD'S REVENGE, a Mathematical Adventure on BBC



Disc

Age Range 7 to 11 years

We were delighted when a primary teacher in Gloucester submitted the 'Wizard's Revenge' for publication as we rate it very highly. It is an adventure program which takes about 40 to 90 minutes to complete. The program has been written so that it falls naturally into two parts which can be tackled separately to fit in with the busy school timetable. 'Wizard's Revenge' comes complete with teachers' notes and an illustrated booklet for the children which sets the scene for the adventure. While on holiday with Aunty and two friends, a day on the beach turns into a real adventure when the children are asked to help rescue a mythical king who is imprisoned on his own island by a wicked wizard. During their adventure children face a series of varied mathematical problems including shape, symmetry, co-ordinates, time, money, multiplication, etc. The graphics are excellent and it should provide a wealth of experience in decision making, planning, logical thinking etc. It is recommended that two or three children play together and when this happens even more in the way of co-operation, team work and language results. Add to this the scope for follow up work and you've got a real winner with children and teachers alike!



Language and Maths Activities

MR YOG & THE NIPPET: BBC Model B
Age Range 4 to 7 years

Cassette and Disc

Mr Yog just loves to eat apples. Every day he walks along paths and climbs up ladders to get to his apples. The wicked Nippet puts obstacles in his way to stop him. Children can help Mr Yog to get to his apples by selecting the right answer in ten different maths and language activities. Yog and the Nippet consists of two programs. 'Word and Letter Games' include letter recognition and discrimination and rhyming words and/ or pictures. 'Number Games' include sets, numbers, number names, addition and subtraction all up to nine. The addition and subtraction games include illustrated corrections. Both programs are fully adjustable from the Teacher Control menu and can be set up to call a series of children up to the computer to play the games. They are presented in appealing graphics and with optional sound effects.



Review Comments

'... one of the rapidly growing range of delightful BBC programs from Sherston ... the program is very easy to use even with very young children. Much older children greatly enjoy it too!'

Educational Equipment, Computer Supplement. March 1985

THE CIRCUS: BBC Model B Age Range 4 to 7 years

NEW

Disc

Another of Margaret Hayball's gems. 'The Circus' is her first in a series of topic based programs for the infant school. It can be used either as the central theme for a topic on the circus, to complement another topic or simply in its own right. The disc includes five different programs which include a wealth of language and maths activities all based in 'The Circus'.

'Make a Circus' allows children to simply build up their very own circus on the screen and then make it perform! Jugglers juggle, Clowns clown, the band plays, in fact everyone does their piece! Screens can be saved at any time to be recalled at a later date. Children who have been testing this program have been fascinated by it. It provides hours of language stimulating activity.

'Clown Snap' is a beautifully simple game that very young children love. Matching the different shapes that make up the clown's face leads to a very pleasing reward!

'Custard' is a wicked game that can start children squealing with delight. Press your key for a snap in three different games matching pictures with words, numbers and colours and watch your custard pie grow. Losers had better beware!!

'The Strong Man' needs help! Children have to balance his weight in six different mathematical activities from one to one correspondence through to simple addition and subtraction.

'Circus Count' is a very simple counting program for children who are just beginning with numbers. Using the Circus pictures they simply have to match the number of pictures with the correct numeral.

The comprehensive Teacher Control menu allows full adjustment of the programs.



Mail Order Details

PRICE LIST

All programs are for the BBC Model B and B+ microcomputers, except 'Vowel Digraphs' which is for the Model B only.

They are available on cassette and 40 or 80 track disc as indicated in the price list.

Program	Cassette	Disc
Short Vowel Sounds	£ 7.50 + £1.13 VAT	£ 9.00 + £1.35 VAT
Magic E	£ 7.50 + £1.13 VAT	£ 9.00 + £1.35 VAT
Consonant Blends	£ 9.00 + £1.35 VAT	£10.50 + £1.58 VAT
Vowel Digraphs	£ 9.00 + £1.35 VAT	£10.50 + £1.58 VAT
Word Builder Mk II	N/A	£10.00 + £1.50 VAT
Easy Type	N/A	£12.00 + £1.80 VAT
Invisible Ink	£10.50 + £1.58 VAT	£12.00 + £1.80 VAT
Maths Snap	£ 6.50 + £0.98 VAT	£ 8.00 + £1.20 VAT
Infant Maths Snap	£ 9.00 + £1.35 VAT	£10.50 + £1.58 VAT
Tens & Units	N/A	£10.50 + £1.58 VAT
Wizard's Revenge	N/A	£12.50 + £1.88 VAT
Yog and the Nippet	£ 8.00 + £1.20 VAT	£ 9.50 + £1.43 VAT
The Circus	N/A	£12.00 + £1.80 VAT

Postage and packing is inclusive.

Software is usually despatched with a week of receiving an order

When ordering please

- (a) specify whether you require cassettes, or discs. 40 track discs will be despatched unless you indicate that 80 track discs are required.
- (b) make it clear if you require the programs on approval – a reply card is included for your convenience.
- (c) include your cheque with your order if you are not eligible for free approval. Cheques or P.O.s to Sherston Software.

Official order forms from educational establishments are welcome.

Trade terms are available on request

Orders, requests for free approval and enquiries to:–

**Sherston Software, 8 Court Street,
Sherston, Malmesbury,
Wiltshire SN16 0LL.
Telephone: 0666 840433**



SHERSTON SOFTWARE