



## DISAL HELBLING YOUNG READERS




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Disal Helbling Young Readers is a beautiful series of graded readers that tell the most adorable and involving stories. The first thing that stands out is the quality of the full-colour illustrations and the artwork. Different illustrators have depicted different stories; although all equally brilliantly, each book still manages to display its very own style, which brings a fascinating variety of colours and shapes to the tales. Particularly noteworthy is the very attractive and original artwork in *Henry Harris Hates Hatches*, a book that jumped into my hands because I was dying to check what visual effect each page would offer me.

The readers are divided into 5 levels (wisely associated to the Cambridge Exams and the Trinity proficiency framework) and each level has a 'mascot' that talks to the reader and proposes questions, mini-tasks and simple exercises related to the story. The mascots are small friendly animals; in one of the levels a bee accompanies the stories,

whereas in another, it is a crab that involves the reader. The stories revolve around the children's reality and tackle themes and issues that are both relevant to young learners and interesting for teachers to develop in class.

Teachers will also cherish the amount of support given by the writers: all the books have a number of fun activities and exercises that focus on the lexical and structural items from the story. All of these resources are divided in sections at the beginning (Play Station 1) and the end of the book (Play Station 2). In addition to all of this, each book suggests a project that relates to the topic discussed in the story and that caters for the learning needs of that specific age group. Each book also has a great IWB-compatible CD ROM/Audio CD with plenty of further practice and fun activities (even karaoke chants)!

A wonderful series both for students and teachers! 

### The reviewer

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