LRC New Resources December 2024

Dear colleagues:

Some great resources await you as the new year approaches. Enjoy!

Joan, Helena, Starsa, Sara, Teri, Lenore and Gabrielle

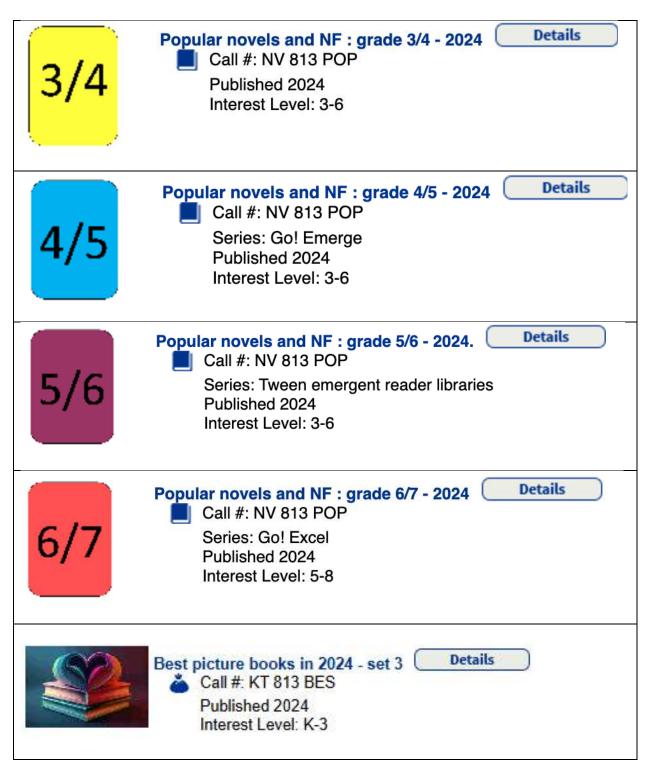
New Titles in Sora for Intermediate Reading Power Kits in Progress

A new collection in Sora has been created for digital copies of Adrienne Gear recommended picture books to teach the reading powers. The 38 titles here are for the 80+ Intermediate picture book titles published in 2024 (French and English) ordered to form 5 new kits, one for each of: Connect, Visualize, Question, Infer and Transform. When all the print titles for these kits arrive, they will be advertised.



Popular Novel, Chapter Book and Picture Book Kits

These kits contain a wide variety of individual titles to support choice in reading for pleasure. They add a great boost to your classroom library. The 4/5, 5/6 and 6/7 kits also contain 20 individual titles from the *Tween Emergent Reader Libraries* with reading levels between Grade 0.5 to 1.5 to ensure accessible titles for every learner.

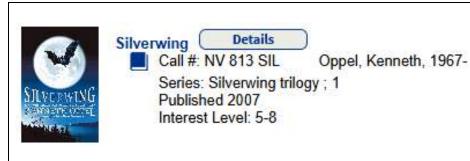


^{*}For all these kits, be sure to check out previous editions that also have beautiful, timeless titles to explore.

*Note: Kenneth Oppel is a Canadian author who grew up in Victoria. At the October PITA Conference, he gave three one-hour keynotes on his writing process, as well as the suggestions he and his Canadian author colleagues give to young writers. If you have any questions about these titles, it would be a pleasure to discuss them with you.

*Primary Teachers: Five new titles have been ordered for your students as well. (3)

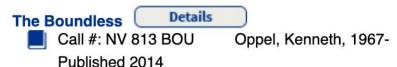




"Shade is a young Silverwing bat, the runt of his colony, determined to prove himself on the long and dangerous winter migration of Hibernaculum, millions of wingbeats to the south. During a storm, he is swept out over the ocean -- away from his family, his friends, and the only life he has ever known. Alone and frightened as winter fast approaches and temperatures plunge, Shade sets out on a remarkable journey to rejoin his colony in the south..."

LRC: 24 print copies, audiobook in Sora





Reading Level: 5.0 Interest Level: 5-8

*Fast-paced action and adventure, with Canadian historical fiction mixed in, i.e., the first trans Canada voyage of an 11 km train, shortly after the driving in of the last spike. Although action and adventure are Oppel's main drivers, several social themes related to the time period arise. Also, in Oppel style, a monster (Sasquatch) is thrown into the mix.

"Will Everett has always wished for an adventure. Little does he know that his adventure starts the moment he boards the Boundless. There is a murder, and now Will must protect a key that can unlock the train's hidden treasures. Villains are fast on his heels and strange creatures are lurking outside the windows as the Boundless hurtles across the country. Together with Maren, a gifted escape artist, and Mr. Dorian, a circus ringmaster with amazing abilities, Will must save the Boundless before someone else winds up dead. His adventure may have begun without him knowing . . . but how it ends is up to Will."

LRC: 24 print copies, ebook in Sora



Ghostlight Details
Call #: NV 813 GHO

Oppel, Kenneth, 1967-

Published 2023

Reading Level: 5.7 Interest Level: 5-8

*Like The Boundless, Oppel did a lot of research for this story, and in his presentations on it, shared interesting historical photos that guided him in writing this fantasy/historical fiction mix.

"Rebecca Strand and her father fell to their deaths from the top of the Gibraltar Point Lighthouse in 1839. Just how they fell--or were they pushed?--remains a mystery. And their ghosts haunt the lighthouse to this day. . . Gabe tells this story every day when he gives the ghost tour on Toronto Island. He tries to make it scary enough to satisfy the tourists, but he doesn't actually believe in ghosts until he finds himself face to face with Rebecca Strand. The true story of her death is far more terrifying than any ghost tale Gabe has told. Rebecca reveals that her father was a member of the Order, a secret society devoted to protecting the world from "the wakeful and wicked dead", malevolent spirits like Viker, the ghost responsible for their deaths. But the Order has disappeared, and Viker's ghost is growing ever stronger. Now Gabe and his friends must find a way to stop Viker before they all become lost souls."--Publisher.

LRC: 12 print copies, audiobook in Sora



Wonderstruck : a novel in words and pictures

Call #: NV 813 WON Selznick, Brian.

Published 2011

Reading Level: 5.0 Interest Level: 5-8

*This "novel in words and pictures" received four plus starred reviews and awards.

"Ben and Rose secretly wish their lives were different. Ben longs for the father he has never known. Rose dreams of a mysterious actress whose life she chronicles in a scrapbook. When

Ben discovers a puzzling clue in his mother's room and Rose reads an enticing headline in the newspaper, both children set out alone on desperate quests to find what they are missing. Set fifty years apart, these two independent stories--Ben's told in words, Rose's in pictures-weave back and forth with mesmerizing symmetry. How they unfold and ultimately intertwine will surprise you, challenge you, and leave you breathless with wonder. Rich, complex, affecting, and beautiful--with over 460 pages of original artwork—Wonderstruck is a stunning achievement from a gifted artist and visionary." - Publisher

LRC: 12 print copies, ebook in Sora





Published 2023

Reading Level: 3.4 Interest Level: 3-6

*6 starred reviews

A mysterious voice has been speaking to Louise in her dreams. She and her brother Merwin are Sycamore seeds, who hope to one day set down roots and become big trees. But when a fire forces them to leave their mama tree prematurely, they find themselves catapulted into the unknown, far from home. Alone and unprepared, they must use their wits and imagination to navigate a dangerous world--filled with dinosaurs, meteors, and volcanoes!-- and the fear of never finding a safe place to grow up. As the mysterious voice gets louder, Louise comes to realize their mission in life may be much bigger than either of them ever could have imagined! Brimming with humor, wonder, mystery, and a profound sense of hope, *Big Tree* is a trailblazing adventure, illustrated with nearly 300 pages of breathtaking pictures. It is Selznick's most imaginative and far-reaching work to date and a singular reading experience for the whole family". - *Publisher*

LRC: 12 print copies, audiobook in Sora



The wild robot escapes

Call #: NV 813 WIL

Brown, Peter, 1979-

Series: Wild robot ; 2 Published 2020 Interest Level: 3-6 "The sequel to the bestselling *The Wild Robot*, by award-winning author Peter Brown: Shipwrecked on a remote, wild island, Robot Roz learned from the unwelcoming animal inhabitants and adapted to her surroundings--but can she survive the challenges of the civilized world and find her way home to Brightbill and the island?

From bestselling and award-winning author and illustrator Peter Brown comes a heartwarming and action-packed sequel to his *New York Times* bestselling *The Wild Robot*, about what happens when nature and technology collide." - *Publisher*

LRC: 12 print copies, ebook in sora



Elliot jelly-legs and the bobblehead miracle : a novel

Details

Call #: NV 813 ELL Ridge, Yolanda, 1973-

Published 2023

Reading Level: 4.2 Interest Level: 3-6

*Nominated for the 2024/2025 Chocolate Lily Award. To determine the winner, Intermediate students read several titles from the list of nominated books that celebrate B.C. authors and illustrators. They then vote on their favourite titles. Many elementary TLs are currently preparing student teams to vote as well as participate in a Battle of the Books challenge on them that Emily Pontus brought to our school district in 2019.

"Eleven-year-old Elliot loves hockey and finally convinces his parents to sign him up. There's just one problem: he can barely skate. But he is determined. He practices every chance he gets and even takes extra lessons. He is still miles behind the rest of his teammates in terms of skills and speed, though. So, when the goalie gets injured, Elliot surprises everyone by offering to take his place. He figures his "jelly-legs" won't be quite so obvious in net. He is wrong. The first game is a complete disaster. In desperation, Elliot begs his Carey Price bobblehead for a win. Both thrilled and surprised when his wish is granted, Elliot makes more wishes. His team keeps winning. But is the magic real? And what will happen if his teammates discover the secret to Elliot's success?" - Publisher

LRC: 12 print copies



Shamus the urban rez dog, P.I.

Details

Call #: NV 813 SHA

Gentile, Leslie, 1959-

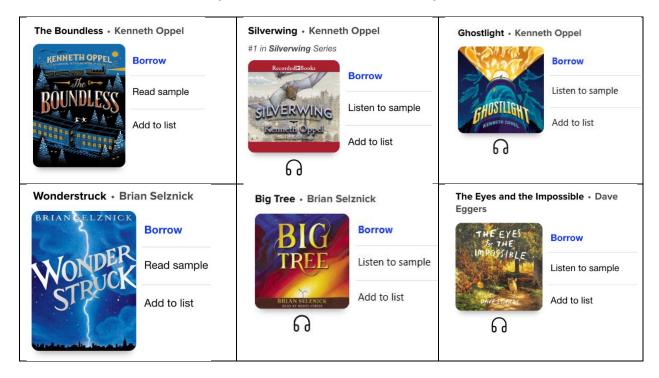
Published 2023 Interest Level: 3-6

*This title has also been nominated for the 2024/2025 Chocolate Lily Awards and is currently being read by student teams across the district.

"[Jewelry] is missing from the store where Mom works and she's the chief suspect. With the help of their dog Shamus, the kids in this Indigenous family set out to catch the real thief, with surprising and hilarious results, including a false closet wall, a lucky bowling ball, and a vicious poodle named Hepzibah." - *Provided by publisher*

LRC: 12 print copies

These titles in Sora correspond to the new novel sets purchased:





*The print version of *Danny, Champion of the World and The Eyes and the Impossible, have* just been ordered.

Miscellaneous



Indigenous Canadian communities: the organization of nonfiction text, gr. 4

Details

Call #: NF 970.004 ABO

Series: Indigenous Canadian Communities

Published 2017 Interest Level: 3-6

*This second kit was created as a teacher shared the existing kit was fully booked all year. Indigenous communities in this kit include: Nisga'a, Inuit, Tlingit, Nuu-chah-nulth, Haida and Dene (6 copies of the book for each community.)

The Indigenous Canadian Communities kit designed to help students navigate nonfiction text and understand how to create a web that clearly shows the topic, main ideas, and details in an organized way. Don't be fooled by students who fill up a web with lots of details as they are quite often missing all the main ideas! The lesson sequence suggested in this kit applies to virtually all nonfiction text. Activities listed in the teacher's guide are hands on and will draw eyes towards the best ways to determine importance while reading nonfiction. The use of flashlights, cooked spaghetti, along with an innovative way to use those old overhead transparencies have been gathered from a variety of professional resources and will be memorable for your students. A final Jeopardy board game project will provide an authentic purpose for gathering all those facts. And of course, they will need to be organized under Jeopardy headings ... the main ideas! Images of Jeopardy game boards are provided along with LRC die cut suggestions. (Teacher guide by Carol Walters.)

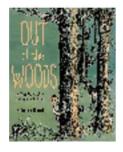


Salmon trip field pack Details

Call #: KT 597.5 SAL

Published 2024 Interest Level: K-3 This kit was put together by 'The Outdoor Learning Store' to support outdoor education and includes: an orange waterproof bag to hold all the resources, a plastic clipboard with large laminated colour life cycle cards with information on the back, field guide pamphlets, small laminated salmon cards covering the various types of salmon, 12 laminated salmon life cycle sequencing cards, a plastic life cycle model, an indigenous finger puppet, a large salmon puppet, a plush salmon and three books.

Playful Learning



Storytelling play : out of the woods

Details

Call #: KT 372.1 STO

Published 2024 Interest Level: K-3

*This is one of my favourite storytelling kits due to its unique story based on a true, unforgettable event.

"Antonio Willie Giroux lived in a hotel his mother ran on the edge of a lake. He loved to explore the woods and look for animals, but they always remained hidden away. One hot, dry summer, when Antonio was almost five, disaster struck: a fire rushed through the forest. Everyone ran to the lake-the only safe place in town-and stood knee-deep in water as they watched the fire. Then, slowly, animals emerged from their forest home and joined the people in the water." – Amazon.ca



The Estuary kit is one of our most popular play-based, place-based, Indigenous content integrated kits. One of the kits has recently been totally revamped. The other will be revamped when it comes in from schools. Realistic looking local animals, wooden plants,

trees and other objects have been included, as have items that represent local features of the area such as the 17th Street Bridge, Airpark runway and the Kus-Kus-sum lot. As students set up the estuary, plenty of interesting discussions will ensue, including the interactions amongst the different animals that live there (predator and prey) as well as man's influence. Great for students of all grades.

*As recommended by teachers, the large tote tray formally used has been replaced with a much smaller one. The fabric mats from the older kits have been retained as several teachers shared they enjoyed using them without the tray.



Invitation to play : natural wooden river stones & boulders

Details

Call #: KT 372.1 INV

Published 2019 Interest Level: K-3

*This is a revamped kit. Two kits were combined into one to increase the play options and includes both the natural wooden river stones and the natural boulder blocks. The stones and boulders have a lovely sensory feel to them.



Invitation to play: nuts and bolts creations - set 2

Details

Call #: KT 372.1 INV Published 2024 Interest Level: K-3

*Hands on creative fun for students who love nuts and bolts!



Invitation to play: three way mirror

Details

Call #: KT 372.1 INV

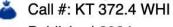
Published 2024 Interest Level: K-3

*Three of these solid, large wooden mirror displays came in September, and the third one just arrived. These are perfect for displaying all kinds of objects based on what you are studying. This three-way mirror came highly recommended by one of our Strong Start facilitators.



Whiteboards for phonics work

Details



Published 2024 Interest Level: K-3

*There are two sets of these write-on/wipe-off white boards, perfect for practicing phonics work and other literacy and numeracy activities at both the Primary and Intermediate level.



Invitation to play: loose parts - mega set of mandalas

Details

Call #: KT 372.1 INV
Published 2019
Interest Level: K-3

*This kit was revamped from containing only "Easter" colour mandalas, to mandalas of all colours and shapes, so it could be used all year. It is definitely a mega kit now!



Prime Climb multiplication/division board game : Jeu de multiplication/division

Call #: KT 512.9 PRI Interest Level: 3-6

"Prime Climb is a perfect game for ages 10+ (or 8+ with adult guidance) to explore mathematical structure in multiplication, division, and prime numbers in a fast-paced, dynamic game of strategy and luck." – mathforlove.com

This kit contains 10 sets of this award-winning game, for 1 to 4 players, that takes 15-30 minutes to play. Instructions for student teams are provided in English as well as French.



Math minds on the move : practicing numeracy skills through games K-7

Call #: KT 513 MAT

Published 2024

Interest Level: All Juvenile

The Math Minds on the Move kit provides a collection of engaging board and card games designed to help K-7 students practice essential numeracy skills, including logic, patterning, and operations (addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division). These games are accessible to all learners, offering a low floor for those who need support while presenting high-ceiling challenges for more advanced students. They foster skill development in strategic

thinking, problem-solving, and arithmetic through fun, hands-on activities. Perfect for fast finishers, math centers, or small group instruction, these games encourage collaboration, teamwork, and communication. By integrating these games into daily routines, teachers can create an inclusive and dynamic learning environment that motivates students and deepens their understanding of key math concepts

*A one-page tips and tricks sheet by Alexis Rekdal is included.



Imaginative play : cooking up a storm!

Details

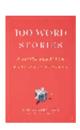
Details

Call #: KT 372.1 IMA

Published 2024 Interest Level: K-3

This kit provides your students with the resources they need to set up an imaginative play in the kitchen: a large wooden stove/oven (2 feet tall), aprons, miniature set of metal pots and pans, wooden place settings and wooden food.

Professional Resources



100-word stories : a short form for expansive writing

Call #: PL 372.6 CUL Culbertson, Kim.

Published 2024

Interest Level: Professional

This resource introduces teachers to 100-word stories, a concise yet impactful writing form that supports differentiation in high-low classrooms. The format allows teachers to tailor instruction to meet diverse student needs, engaging both reluctant writers and advanced learners. It offers step-by-step mini lessons that guide students through brainstorming, drafting, revising, and refining their narratives. Each lesson emphasizes skills like word choice, sentence variety, and precise language while offering opportunities for scaffolding or extension activities. (Contact Alexis for support with this resource.)



The writing revolution: help your students write well and think critically Call #: PL 372.62 HOC

Hochman, Judith,

Published 2017

Interest Level: Professional

Details

This resource provides a practical, research-based framework for improving student writing across all grade levels and subjects. The Writing Revolution (TWR) integrates writing instruction into content learning, helping students master essential skills while deepening their understanding of subject matter.

It emphasizes sentence-level strategies as a foundation for more complex writing tasks, such as paragraphs and essays. Its step-by-step approach supports differentiation, making it suitable for high-low classrooms and diverse learner needs. With examples, templates, and mini lessons, TWR equips teachers to guide students in developing clear, coherent writing while enhancing reading comprehension, critical thinking, and overall academic success. (Contact Alexis for support with this resource.)



Rewards writing: sentence refinement

Details

Call #: PL 372.62 REW

Published 2008

Interest Level: Professional

"The goal of the Rewards Writing program is to "provide explicit instruction and focused" practice on skills that intermediate students need to write more sophisticated sentences and paragraphs. The 75 teacher-directed lessons provide the framework for introducing, teaching, practicing, and providing feedback. Each 20-30 minute lesson follows the same instruction routine: (Sopris Learning) and focuses on sharpening word choices, polishing sentences and editing paragraphs." Note that this professional library kit contains four components: a teacher's guide for Sentence Refinement, a coil-bound book of blackline masters for the classroom teacher who purchases to use, a writing "Word Choice Help Book" (non-consumable) and a "Writing Student Book" (consumable). Please note the copyright statements in these three resources, i.e., activities etc. that can only be photocopied by the "classroom teacher who purchases." They are being made available for you to view, however, to determine if they would be a worthwhile purchase at your site. Great for teaching the building blocks of writing!

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If you have made it reading to this point, congratulations! If you are interested in your name being put it for a draw for brand new hand loom, please email me by Wednesday afternoon and I will draw one name Thursday morning. If you hear back from me your name was drawn.

A note from Alexis Rekdal:

Whether you're exploring a new tool, strategy, or program from the LRC, my role is to provide support in using these resources to enrich student learning. I'm here to support teachers in implementing them in ways that fit their needs and goals. Collaboration can take many forms: I'm available to team-teach, where we plan and deliver lessons together, or to model strategies in the classroom, providing a practical demonstration of how to integrate the resources effectively. Alternatively, I can act as an extra teacher in the room, offering hands-on support for students during lessons. This flexibility ensures that our work aligns with the unique dynamics of your classroom and instructional style. Let's create a plan that works for you and your students!

French

*Books with French translations are being added to as many of the English Storytelling kits as possible to facilitate their use in French Immersion classrooms. You can identify these kits by the bilingual titles. Several more bilingual storytelling kits are in the processing queue, waiting for the kits to come in from schools for the French titles to be added.



Storytelling play: five little monkeys: Récit d'histoires: Cinq petits singes

Call #: KT 372.1 STO

Details

Published 2024 Interest Level: K-3



Storytelling play : ten flashing fireflies = Récits d'histoire : dix lucioles

Call #: KT 372.1 STO

Published 2024 Interest Level: K-3

*Note, the main story is in English but is very easy to translate when reading out loud. Books on lucioles have been added for curious students. Great for number concepts to 10. This was originally a kit that Christine Vanderee created and got so much use it needed a revamp.



Storytelling play : The paper bag princess - Set 1 = Récits

d'histoires: La princesse dans un sac

Details

Details

Published 2024 Interest Level: K-3

*Vocabulary cards for games to go with this kit are currently being produced by the Print Shop! Similar vocabulary sheets/cards are being worked on for the other storytelling kits to enhance their use.

Games!

Card Games, Board Games, Games for Thinking, Numeracy, Literacy etc. are a focus this year. Here are the 2024 French versions. The English versions are also often suitable for French Immersion when not language-based. "Bilingual" games kits, such as *Prime Climb*, have been noted above.



Jeux de société, K-3

Details

Call #: KT 448 JEU

Sublocation: French Published 2024 Interest Level: K-3



Laissez-nous jouer

Details



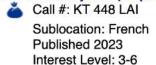
Call #: KT 448 LAI

Sublocation: French Published 2023 Interest Level: 5-8



Laissez-nous jouer (en primaire)

Details





Vocabulon junior : l'aventure des mots - collection de classe

Details

Call #: KT 448 VOC
Sublocation: French
Published 2019
Interest Level: 3-6

Miscellaneous



Le chemin vers le bien-être

Details

Call #: NF 970.004 PAS CHE

Rédactrice en chef: Rachel Albanese; trauction Julie Bourgon.

Sublocation: French Series: Passe à l'action pour la réconcilation Published 2019

"La série « Agir pour la réconciliation » présente aux élèves les cultures, les perspectives, les visions du monde et les vérités historiques autochtones comme voie vers la réconciliation. Nous voulons tous être en bonne santé. « La voie du bien-être » explore les points de vue des peuples autochtones sur la santé et le bien-être et l'importance pour chacun de trouver un équilibre entre l'esprit, le corps, l'âme et les émotions."



Notre terre, c'est nous

Details

Call #: NF 970.004 PAS NOT

Rédactrice en chef: Rachel Albanese; trauction Julie Bourgon.

Sublocation: French Series: Passe à l'action pour la réconcilation Published 2019

"La collection Passe à l'action pour la réconciliation familiarise les élèves avec les diverses cultures, perspectives, visions du monde et vérités historiques autochtones dans une perspective de réconciliation.-- We all have connections to the land. We are the Land explores Indigenous Peoples? relationships with and connections to the land and the importance of maintaining those ties for all people in Canada."



Place au changement Call #: NF 970.004 PAS PLA

Rédactrice en chef: Rachel Albanese; trauction Julie Bourgon.

Sublocation: French Series: Passe à l'action pour la réconcilation Published 2019

"La série « Agir pour la réconciliation » présente aux élèves les cultures, les perspectives, les visions du monde et les vérités historiques autochtones comme voie vers la réconciliation. « Le temps du changement » explore l'histoire des peuples autochtones du Canada et certains des défis créés par les pensionnats et la Loi sur les Indiens. La nécessité de la réconciliation est également abordée, ainsi que l'importance pour tous les Canadiens de trouver leur propre voie vers la réconciliation.

Professional Library



La morphologie pour mieux lire et écrire : 55 activités pour découvrir les règles de formation des mots Call #: PL 372.61 MOR

Berthiaume, Rachel, 1974-

Series: Didactique. Langue et communication Published 2017

Interest Level: Professional

*This teacher guide with suggested activities is currently being explored by an Intermediate French Immersion teacher, and Alexis Rekdal, Intermediate Literacy Lead Teacher.



Changer l'équilibre : six façons d'intégrer la science de la lecture dans la classe de littératie équilibrée Call #: PL 372.4 BUR

Burkins, Miller Jan.

Details

Sublocation: French Series: Chenelière/Didactique Published 2024 Interest Level: Professional

*This is the French version of Shifting the Balance, which is hugely popular right now. Alexis Rekdal is currently leading a book club for this title.



Les ateliers de négociation pour enseigner et apprendre l'orthographe grammaticale Call #: PL 372.63 PAR

Parent, Josianne.

Sublocation: French Series: Chenelière/Didactique

Published 2024

Interest Level: Professional



Scénarios pour mieux écrire les mots l'enseignement explicite des règles d'orthographe lexicale

Call #: PL 372.63 LER Céline Leroux, Lise Martin, Brigitte Stanke.

Details

Details

Sublocation: French

Series: Chenelière/Didactique. Langue et communication

Published 2012

Interest Level: Professional



Activités pour mieux conjuguer
Call #: PL 448.2 LER L

Details

Leroux, Céline, 1954-

Sublocation: French Published 2024

Interest Level: Professional