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## Fitzroy Readers: A Phonic Approach to Literacy

Are you looking for a proven and effective way to teach your child or student how to read and write with confidence and mastery? Do you want a comprehensive and consistent literacy program that covers all the essential skills and knowledge for English? If so, you might want to consider **Fitzroy Readers**, a series of educational materials and resources that use a phonic approach to literacy. In this article, we will explain what Fitzroy Readers are, how they work, why you should choose them, and how you can buy them. By the end of this article, you will have a clear idea of how Fitzroy Readers can help you or your child achieve literacy success.

### What are Fitzroy Readers?

Fitzroy Readers are a set of **90 carefully graded story books** that use a **phonic approach** to teach reading and writing skills. They were created by Faye Berryman and Philip O'Carroll for use in the classrooms of **Fitzroy Community School**, founded by the pair in 1976 in Melbourne's inner north. The Fitzroy Method was originally designed for only one purpose - reading confidence and mastery of English in the classrooms of FCS. However, over the years, the method has gained popularity and recognition among other schools, teachers, parents, and learners who have experienced its benefits.

Fitzroy Readers are not just ordinary story books. They are **specially designed** to introduce new sounds and words in a **gradual** and **systematic** way, so that learners can build on their previous knowledge and avoid confusion. Each reader has a **clear focus** on a new sound or digraph (a combination of two letters that make one sound), such as /sh/, /ch/, /th/, /ee/, /oo/, etc. Each reader also has a few **special words** to learn by memory, such as *the*, *said*, *was*, etc. These words are either very common or do not follow the regular phonic rules. Once a learner has learnt the new sound and the special words, they can proceed to read the story with ease and enjoyment.

Fitzroy Readers also come with a range of **support materials** that complement and reinforce the learning outcomes of the story books. These include: