

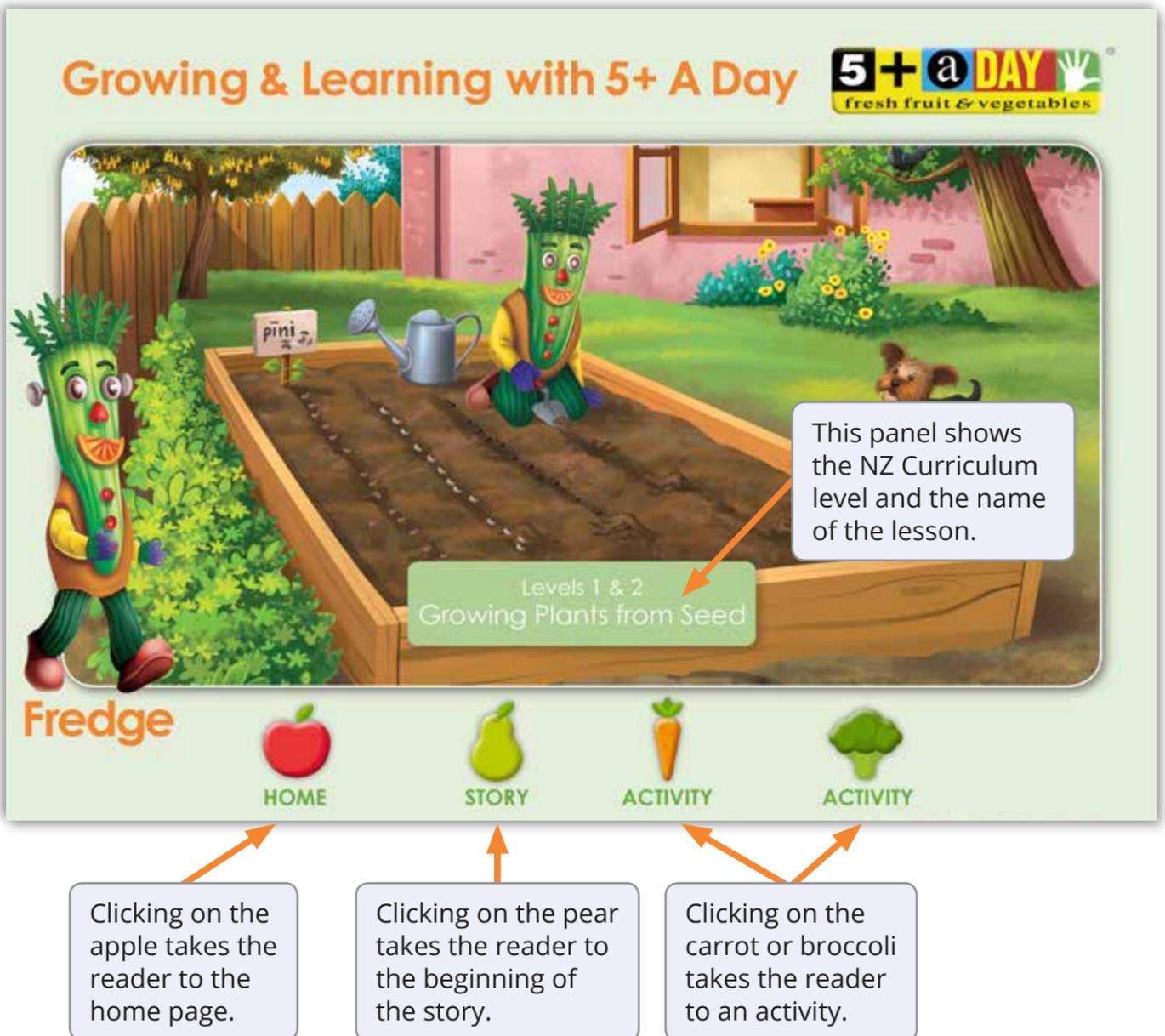
Getting the Best from the 5+ A Day eBooks

Our five eBooks featuring Fledge and friends are an integral part of the primary school section of Growing and Learning with 5+ A Day. These books have themes and content that align with and support the learning intentions of the lessons.

The lessons suggest ideal places for using an eBook to introduce or reinforce concepts or vocabulary. This can be at the beginning of a lesson to engage the students in the topic, or during or after the lesson to allow them to revisit material and strengthen their understanding.

Children are fast learners when it comes to digital technology. However, to begin it is a good idea to model the use of an eBook in a shared approach with a data projector or on a computer. This allows you to show students the features, such as page turns, and explain how to access and work with the activities.

The 5+ A Day eBook home page below shows the standard navigation.



The Benefits of eBooks

A well-designed e-Book includes features that help to promote early literacy skills, such as a legible black font on a white background, line breaks that support phrased reading, and a strong picture-text match. As well as having these hallmarks of an instructional reader, specific features, such as paced audio with highlighted text, provide additional scaffolding for developing readers.

Although there are definite benefits for children in reading printed books, research has shown a number of positive outcomes from using eBooks. Children tend to engage for longer periods with a parent or teacher when using eBooks compared with print books. [3, 4] Children receive the most benefits from eBooks when a parent or teacher first share the eBook with them and talk about the story. [1, 3]

Children who are finding reading difficult may benefit from eBooks. One study has shown that children who were tracking below their peers experienced improvement in vocabulary and word-attack skills as a result of using eBooks. [2]

Because of the engagement factor, children often read eBooks over and over. This repeated reading of the same story can help to improve a child's literacy skills. [5]

References

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