

Librarian Quick Start Guide

How to use Ziptales in your library



What does Ziptales offer your library?

Ziptales is an online Australian literacy resource, offering a vast digital reading collection for students at all levels of the primary school.

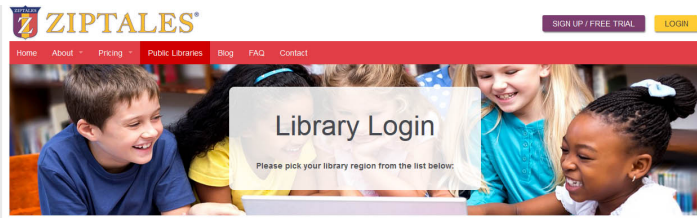
Ziptales is based on these principles:

- Children are happy to read for pleasure
- Children enjoy using digital resources (PCs and devices)
- Children are keen to have interactivity and to be able to choose what they read
- The aim of the library is to promote reading and to raise reading skills



How do librarians access Ziptales?

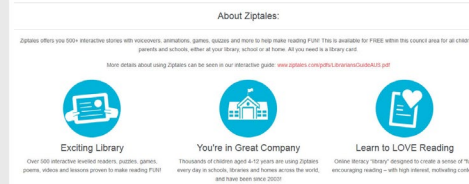
On the Ziptales home page, choose “Public Libraries”. Find your library and click on the logo or side list link to access your account.



- Bayside Library
- Blackdown Library
- Burdekin Shire Council
- Clarence Regional Library
- Fraser Coast Regional Council Library
- Gladstone Library
- Gold Coast Council
- Inner West Council
- Isaac Libraries
- Linggou Library
- Livingstone Shire Council Library
- Maribyrnong Library
- Merredin Library
- Mojinan Council Library
- Noosa Shire Council Library
- Penrith City Council Library
- Scenic Rim Regional Library
- Somerset Regional Council Library
- Sutherland Library



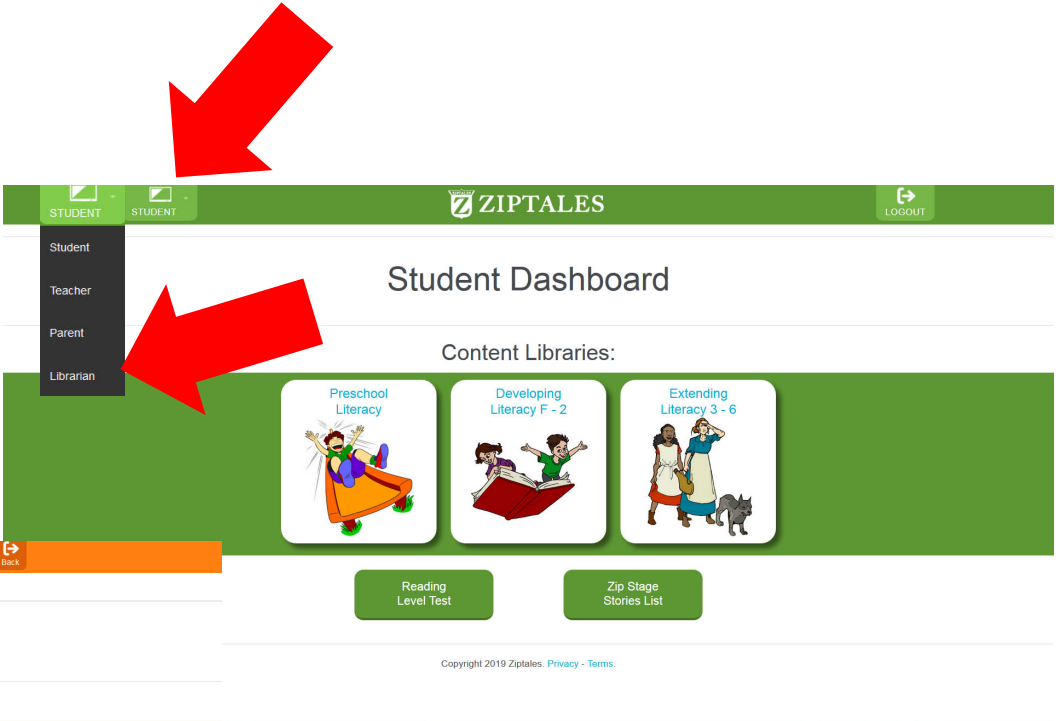
Login using your barcode.



The Library Dashboard

The default view on Ziptales is the **Student Dashboard** as seen here.

By clicking on the view tab (top left), you can select the **Librarian** view.



The content libraries

There are three main content libraries:

- (1) **Preschool Literacy**
- (2) **Developing Literacy (Prep – Year 2)**
- (3) **Extending Literacy (Years 3 – 6).**

These content libraries offer a variety of online stories and helpful teaching resources, suitable for the age range defined.



Preschool Literacy

Students at preschool/kindergarten can access a variety of useful content such as **Learn the ABC, My First Words and Letter Fun**, as well as a charming suite of **Nursery Rhymes**.

There are also a range of other reading and listening options for younger children. All come with voiceovers and animations.

The screenshot shows the ZIPTALES website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with 'LIBRARIAN', 'ZIPTALES', 'Welcome, Lithgow Library!', and 'LOGOUT'. Below this is a secondary navigation bar with 'Dashboard', 'Content Libraries', 'Resources', 'Help / Support', and 'Contact'. The main heading is 'Preschool Literacy'. Underneath, there is a section titled 'Visual & Fun' with a description: 'Our highly visual stories, with active reading capacity, will help children get started on their first literacy steps.' This section contains eight interactive icons: 'ABC', 'Storytime', 'Puppet Plays', 'Easy Readers', 'Ready, Set, Learn', 'My First Words', 'Letter Fun', and 'Nursery Rhymes'. Below these icons are two red buttons: 'DEVELOPING LITERACY F-2' and 'EXTENDING LITERACY 3-6'. Two inset images are shown below the main screenshot: one for 'My First Words' with categories like 'Pets', 'Fruit', 'Shapes', 'Transport', 'The Zoo', 'Nature', 'Clothes', and 'Instruments'; and another for 'Nursery Rhymes' with various rhymes like 'The Bear', 'The Frog', 'The Lamb', 'The Duck', 'The Goose', 'The Cow', 'The Pig', 'The Sheep', 'The Horse', 'The Rabbit', 'The Cat', and 'The Dog'.

Developing Literacy (Foundation/Prep-2)

Students in lower primary can access a variety of animated stories in **Storytime**, **Timeless Tales**, **Easy Readers** and **Junior Readers**.

All have voiceovers and come with follow up worksheets.



Extending Literacy (3-6)

For students in middle and upper primary years, there is a complete **Reading Library** of over 200 stories classified according to genre: adventure, animal, comedy, fantasy, mystery, etc.

Each story comes with a professional voiceover, animated art and interactive comprehension quizzes (to determine how well a child understood the story).

All program details are given in the icon under each category.

Worksheets are available if needed.

The screenshot shows the ZIPTALES website interface for 'Extending Literacy 3-6'. The page features a grid of category icons including Adventure, Animal, Children in History, Choose Your Own Adventure, Comedy, Fairy Tales, Fantasy, Graphic Classics, Interactive Readers, Mystery, Myths & Legends, People, Scary, True Tales, Yucky, Advanced Library, Rhyme Time, Make & Do, Puzzle Palace, and Skill Builders. A red arrow points from the 'Reading Library' text to the grid, and another red arrow points from the 'Adventure' icon to a larger, detailed view of the 'COMEDY CAPERS' category. This detailed view shows a clown character on a stage with a 'COMEDY CAPERS' banner and a list of story titles at the bottom.

Example of a story

The genre stories all have **Fill the Gaps** (cloze) and **Multiple Choice** comprehension activities for students to complete after reading the story.

The Fill the Gaps is quite simple. The Multiple Choice is a much harder test.

Both provide instant feedback on the levels of comprehension achieved by the reader.

If the child scores below 50%, he/she is prompted to “Have another go”.

Story: Marion Thomas
Artwork: Kelvin Hucker

Dr Wow

Zip Stage: 5

Billy's uncle Dr Harry was an inventor. He lived on the top floor in what Billy's Dad called the Crankshop. Harry was an odd one.

You may have read in the papers about the madman who crossed the bay in a Volkswagen with floats attached. All went well until the Water Police motored up and asked if he had a licence for his "boat". It was just as well. By the time they got back, the car was half under water. Dad was forced to pay the fine. Harry had to promise to stay on land. Dad dubbed it the "Waterbomb".

And then there was his portable folding armchair. You pressed a button, and it inflated under you. Problem was the weight of a person caused the chair to topple over. Mum ended up sprawled on the floor with the chair still wrapped around her. Dad dubbed this breakthrough "Dr Floppy's Folly".

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Story: Marion Thomas
Artwork: Kelvin Hucker

Dr Wow

Zip Stage: 5

"I t's all sorted," said Billy.

"What?"

"I did the composition. And got an A."

"How?"

"Went back to last week. Did it. Handed it in."

"But how?"

"Dr Harry's 'sync your homework to the set date' machine."

"Wow!" said Dad.

You have reached the end of the story. Now, let's see how well you understood 'Dr Wow', by completing the quizzes to the right of screen...

FILL THE GAPS MULTIPLE CHOICE

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Story: Marion Thomas
Artwork: Kelvin Hucker

Dr Wow

Zip Stage: 5

Billy's Uncle Harry was an actor . The TADIS was a time . machine. The first place Billy travelled to was Paris . Unfortunately the locals thought that he was a king . and tried to catch him. Billy only just escaped in time, when he pressed the red . button on the machine's remote control. When he got back home, he told Harry that the past was too sad . On his next trip in the TADIS, Billy went to Sydney . in 2050. Billy was amazed to see that everyone wore a little badge . on their hats. Unfortunately, he got into trouble again because he didn't have a passport . with him. The only good that Billy got out of the TADIS was when he used it to improve his appearance .

See My Score!

Ziptales reading levels scheme

All Ziptales stories in all three content libraries are levelled according to the unique **Ziptales Reading Levels** scheme.

Essentially, there are **10 Zip Stages**, mapped to the **Reading Recovery**, **Flesch** and **Lexile** reading difficulty systems.

For example, a child reading at approximately **Grade 3** is likely to be suited to the **Zip Stage 5** or 6 band.

This is entirely up to the judgement of the librarian/parent of course. The 'library' is open access, so children can view any content they wish.

	RR levels	Lexile levels	Flesch levels
Zip Stage 1	5 - 10		Kindergarten
Zip Stage 2	11 - 15		Kindergarten
Zip Stage 3	16 - 22		0.1 - 2.5
Zip Stage 4	23 - 27	100 - 200	2.0 - 3.5
Zip Stage 5	28+	200 - 400	2.5 - 4.0
Zip Stage 6		400 - 500	3.5 - 4.5
Zip Stage 7		500 - 700	4.0 - 5.5
Zip Stage 8		700 - 950	5.0 - 6.5
Zip Stage 9		950 - 1100	6.0 - 7.0
Zip Stage 10		1100+	7+