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# Introduction

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Welcome to *Kidspiration: Simple Projects Intermediate*. This book is designed to help you use *Kidspiration* in the classroom with your students. English, Mathematics, Society and Environment, and Science projects are included that integrate the use of *Kidspiration*. Each lesson includes several student learning activities with templates and sample work to help you get started. The projects in this book were developed for years 3–5 teachers and their students.

*Kidspiration* is a visual learning software program. It was designed to be used with elementary students and is easier for these students to use than its predecessor, *Inspiration*. *Kidspiration* provides a visual tool for students to organise their ideas. It allows them to create concept maps, idea maps, webs, storyboards and more. The Super Grouper tool in *Kidspiration* also makes it easy for students to sort objects and ideas.

*Kidspiration* allows students to see their work in two different views. The Picture view allows students to see a visual representation of their work. The Writing view organises information in outline form. Students can switch between the two views to see their work represented in either format.

This book was designed for teachers familiar with the basics of using *Kidspiration*. If you are not familiar with the program, I recommend you purchase *Kidspiration for Terrified Teachers*. This book will provide you with step-by-step instructions for learning *Kidspiration*.

## About the Projects

In *Kidspiration: Simple Projects Intermediate* you will find a variety of projects that you can complete with your students. Each project is presented as follows:

### Project Description

In this section you are provided an overview of the activities in the lesson.

### Hardware and Software Needed

In this section you are provided with the computer hardware and software needed for the lesson. All lessons require a computer and *Kidspiration* software. Some lessons also require a computer microphone, word processing software, or presentation software.

### Materials Needed

In this section all materials and supplies needed for the lesson are listed. Additional materials may include books or photocopies of activities.

# Introduction *(cont.)*

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## **CD-ROM Files**

In this section you are provided with a chart showing all of the files provided for the lesson. Lessons include group learning activities and student learning activities. Templates and sample work are also provided for each lesson.

## **File Preparation**

This section explains which student learning activity templates need to be saved as an activity in *Kidspiration* before starting the lesson. Directions for saving a file as an activity can be found on page 6.

## **Introducing the Project**

This section includes introductory activities for the lesson. These are often group activities designed to prepare students for independent or small group work.

## **Facilitating the Project**

This section provides guidelines for helping students complete the student learning activities. The teacher's role is to guide students' learning and provide individual support as needed. Most lessons have two or three student learning activities.

## **Presenting the Project**

This section provides ideas for presenting the students' work. This is meant to be a culminating activity for the lesson.

## **Adapting the Projects**

These lessons were designed for a typical classroom with access to computers. Project topics are those commonly found in the curricula for years 3–5. Examples include: non-fiction writing, multiplication factors, ancient civilisations, and recycling. However, you may need to adjust the projects for your needs. Feel free to do this. As a teacher I understand the need to make projects your own and adapt lessons to meet the needs of diverse learners.

There are several ways you can adapt the projects. You may choose to only do one activity in a project or have students work individually or in groups. You might adapt a lesson for whole class instruction or provide an activity to an individual student as a challenge. Any way you choose to adapt the lessons will only make them richer learning experiences for your students.

## **In Conclusion**

I hope you will enjoy using *Kidspiration: Simple Projects Intermediate* with your students. I have enjoyed creating learning opportunities for you that integrate technology into the curriculum while teaching important topics. It is important to provide exciting learning opportunities for students and these projects are an excellent way to teach both important content material and technology skills. Enjoy your teaching!

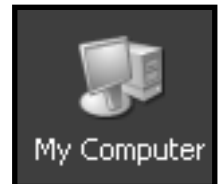
# Using this Book

## About the CD-ROM

In the back of this book you will find a CD-ROM. Please note that the CD-ROM does not contain *Kidspiration*. You must already have *Kidspiration* installed on your computer to use the files from the CD-ROM.

You can access files on the CD-ROM by placing the CD into the CD-ROM drive of your computer. Since accessing the CD is different within *Microsoft Windows* than it is on a Macintosh computer, you will find separate directions for each below.

- If you are using *Microsoft Windows*, double-click the **My Computer** icon on your desktop. (In *Windows XP*, My Computer is found in the Start menu.) At the My Computer window, double-click the icon representing the CD-ROM drive, such as **D:** or **E:**. (You may also see the name of the CD - **tcm\_3486**- right next to the CD-ROM drive label.) At the tcm\_3486 window, you will see a list of all of the files on the CD. Just scroll down until you find the file you want, and double-click the file to open it. *Windows* will automatically launch the software program associated with the file.
- If you are using a Macintosh system, double-click the CD icon that is on your desktop. Just scroll down until you find the file you want and double-click the file to open it. The system will automatically launch the application that is associated with that file.

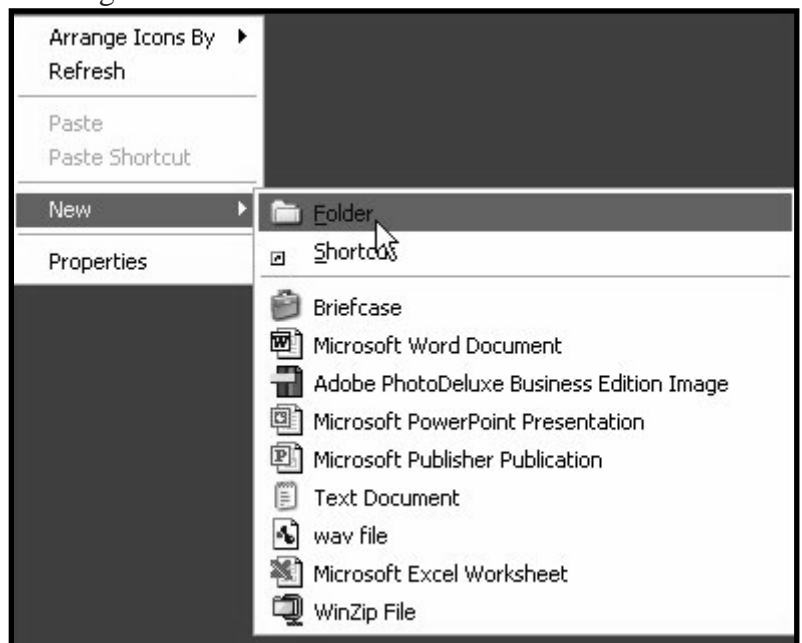


## About File Management

It is important to consider how to organise all of the files from this book before starting. Additionally, your students will be creating many more files, so management is very important. You should select one place to save your files, and teach your students how to save their files in one place as well. Some suggestions for file management are described below.

Each lesson has a File Preparation section that tells you to create a folder for that lesson. Since creating a folder is a bit different on PCs and Macs, you will find separate directions for each below.

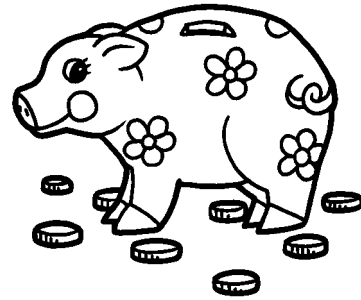
- If you are using *Microsoft Windows*, click your right mouse button in any blank area on the *Windows* desktop. A pop-up menu will appear. Select **New**. Another pop-up menu will appear. Select **Folder**.



# How Much Are You Worth?

## Project Description

In this project, students calculate the total cost of everything they are wearing. Students first estimate what their items are worth. Then they calculate the total value of the items and compare the total to their estimates.



## Hardware and Software Needed

For this project you will need:

- your computer system, and
- *Kidspiration*.

## Materials Needed

For this project you will need:

- to install the Wealth Symbol Library. If you don't know how to install symbol libraries refer to the **How to Install Symbol Libraries** section at the front of this book.
- copies of the Calculations Sheet for each student [filename: wealth5.doc].

## CD-ROM Files

Name	Description	Software	Filename
<i>Wealth Symbol Library</i>	Symbol library	<i>Kidspiration</i>	wlthsym.kid
<i>Personal Belongings Idea Map Template</i>	Student learning activity	<i>Kidspiration</i>	wealth1.kid
<i>Personal Belongings Idea Map Sample</i>	Sample student learning activity	<i>Kidspiration</i>	wealth2.kid
<i>How Much Are You Worth? Template</i>	Student learning activity	<i>Kidspiration</i>	wealth3.kid
<i>How Much Are You Worth? Sample</i>	Sample student learning activity	<i>Kidspiration</i>	wealth4.kid
<i>Calculations Sheet</i>	Student learning activity	<i>Microsoft Word</i>	wealth5.doc

# How Much Are You Worth? (cont.)

## File Preparation

- Create a wealth project folder on the hard-disk drive of the computer system your students will be using for the project. Then you and your students will always know where to save files related to this project.

**Special Note:** If you have multiple computers in your classroom and are on a network, create the project folder on the network drive, so it will be accessible to students working at all machines. If you are not sure how to create a project folder on your computer system or on the network drive, see the section **About File Management**.

- For this project, open the following *Kidspiration* files and save each as a student learning activity:
  - **Personal Belongings Idea Map Template** [filename: **wealth1.kid**]
  - **How Much Are You Worth? Template** [filename: **wealth3.kid**]

**Special Note:** If you are not sure how to save a *Kidspiration* file as a student learning activity, see the section **How to Save a File from the CD-ROM As a Student Learning Activity**.

## Introducing the Project

Ask the class to think about everything they are wearing. Mention:

- clothes
- jackets or coats
- jewellery and watches
- shoes
- glasses, contact lenses
- make-up (if applicable)

Ask the class to estimate how much they think everything they are wearing costs. Have students share their estimates with a partner and write volunteer's answers on the board.

