



Great Explorers is the new edition of our winning course, *Explorers*. It provides a gateway into the lives of British children, igniting young learners' natural curiosity as it builds their confidence in English.

The strong real world focus in *Great Explorers* is showcased through its rich video materials and content from across the curriculum. Right from the start, children are encouraged to explore language and express themselves in English.

Great Explorers also abounds in imaginative appeal, with engaging stories and delightful songs that entertain and educate for a truly involving learning experience.

Features of the new edition

- **Enhanced cultural content** – Explore the UK! Culture pages with mini-books in the first two levels and engaging texts in levels 3 to 6 extend on the cultural themes of the unit.
- **Improved assessment offer** – editable Challenge level tests provide an extended higher level alternative to Standard tests and Cambridge Young Learners exam practice pages familiarise pupils with external exam formats.
- **Teaching with technology** – story animations on the iPack in levels 1 to 4 and song animations at levels 5 and 6 add a fresh and motivating new dimension to language learning.
- **Literacy support** – a comprehensive Phonics Resource Pack and cultural mini books guide young learners in their first steps towards reading and writing.

Why do we revise our materials?

There are three main motivations behind our decision to revisit the materials we publish:

1. User feedback

A lot of careful consideration and detailed development work go into producing a six-level course. Likewise, choosing a new course is the result of a thorough assessment of the materials available and careful deliberation. The stakes are high. At OUP, we see the relationship we build with teachers as fundamental to ensuring that our materials really work in the classroom and produce tangible results. That's why we are always ready to listen to the teachers who use our courses. Hearing about your experiences of what went well and ideas for how to improve our materials is of great value to authors and editors in their work. We have to thank all the users of *Explorers* for their fantastic feedback which has made a huge contribution to the preparation of *Great Explorers*.

2. To reflect changes in the way the world teaches English

A crucial part of our work is to keep up to date with new methodologies in language teaching and help teachers translate these to practical techniques in the language classroom. We also revise our materials to ensure they make the most of available technologies and reflect advances in the use of multimedia content.

3. To ensure our materials meet local educational requirements

We always keep our ears to the ground to keep abreast of developments on a national and regional level so that we can be sure that our materials meet local requirements and address every user's needs. More recently, we have been following the current government's plans to introduce the Ley Organica Ministerial de Calidad Educativa (LOMCE).

Does *Great Explorers* meet the requirements of the LOMCE?

Yes, it does! And here's how:

- The LOMCE builds on the LOE which placed the Key Competences at the centre of the language learning curriculum. The Key Competences focus on preparing children for the future by developing skills and attitudes that will help them to enjoy a good quality of life, and to successfully interact with others in the contexts they are likely to encounter in their daily lives. The real-world contexts in *Great Explorers* provide pupils with a model for the scenarios children of their age group encounter in real life communication and the carefully staged 'from listening to speaking' approach helps children put the language they have required receptively into action.
- The LOMCE focuses on the role language teaching can play in promoting social inclusiveness and in providing insights into other disciplines. In *Great Explorers*, pupils are provided with opportunities to make comparisons with their own experiences and explore social values and cultural issues through the experiences of a group of British children. Unit topics also develop into cross-curricular concepts designed to help children acquire transferable knowledge and skills.
- The LOMCE also outlines the target language that young learners should be exposed to in the course of Primary education. *Great Explorers* will offer full syllabus coverage to ensure your pupils meet all of the learning objectives defined by the LOMCE curriculum. The course already offers comprehensive coverage of the curriculum ready for implementation of the LOMCE in P1, 3 and 5 in 2014 and we will ensure that any necessary revisions are effected in time for implementation of the reform in 2, 4 and 6 in the following year.

'At OUP, we believe that education changes lives for the better and are committed to making a difference in people's lives through education and learning English.'

Peter Marshall, Managing Director, OUP ELT

We continually revise our materials to ensure that they offer teachers with everything they need to satisfy local requirements. The introduction of the LOMCE will mark the beginning of a period of transition and we will support teachers and learners along every step of the way. We are proud of our collaborative relationship with teachers and applaud the progress they continue to make in equipping young learners with the skills to succeed in the classroom and beyond. We will continue to work closely with language learning professionals to support them in these goals and to shape learning together.