Creating accessible fixed layout EPUB3 for schools and colleges

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Complexity cancels accessibility as well as ubiquity

- Over the past year and a half, we have dropped a range of existing, proprietary ebook formats in favour of fixed layout EPUB3
- At the same time, we have created a lightweight HTML5
 EPUB3 player to replace a number of existing ebook players
- Workflow and player support EPUB3 Media Overlays with text highlighting
- The goal is to use the player for all Schools and Colleges ebook publishing at Primary and Secondary level
- We are live to customers on four Pearson Schools and Colleges platforms today

ALWAYS LEARNING PEARSON

An accessible component







The horses were unbelievably strong. It was all Hylas could do to hang on to the reins and stay in the chariot.

A glance over his shoulder told him this wasn't going to work: he was trailing a cloud of dust a blind man could have followed. Then he saw a fork up ahead. The track on the right was wide enough to take the chariot, but the one on the left was narrow and plunged into reeds; he guessed it led to the river.

Tugging at the reins with all his might, he vanked the horses' heads to one side and brought them to a squealing halt, then leapt down and started frantically unhitching Jinx. Jinx stamped and tried to bite, but somehow Hylas got him free of the yoke without tangling up the reins. That left Smoke hitched to the chariot. A slap on the rump sent him thundering down the wider trail with the chariot bouncing behind him. With luck the Crows would follow its dust, and only discover the trick when it was too late.

Hylas scrambled on to Jinx's back, and the horse was so startled he shot off at a gallop. Hylas had ridden donkeys before, but never a horse - and linx hated being ridden. Clutching fistfuls of mane, Hylas clung on grimly. Reeds whipped his face and his food sack thumped against his back. Jinx tried to scrape him off under a willow. Hylas ducked, bashing his cheek on the horse's bony withers.

After a battle that went on forever, Jinx jolted to a halt and refused to go on. With a snarl, Hylas slid off and hauled him down the riverbank to drink.

The reeds made a stifling green tunnel, and the rasp of the crickets was so loud that if the Crows came after him he'd never hear them. He was worried about Telamon, I'll head them off in the wrong direction . . . How would be manage that without getting killed?

Watching Jinx munch giant fennel, Hylas realized he was ravenous. He'd left Telamon's provisions in the chariot, but he still had his food sack. Grabbing olives and a hunk of cheese, he ate some and offered a bit to Jinx. The horse flattened his ears and bared his teeth.

His flanks were dark with sweat and criss-crossed with fine black scars. Hylas had scars too, from Neleos' beatings, 'Poor linx,' he said.

Jinx shot him a wary look.

Hylas put the cheese and a couple of olives on the ground. Jinx snuffled up the olives and stamped on the cheese.

Hylas moved to stroke the steaming neck, 'You're not so bad, are you? You just don't like being beaten.'

linx reared, lashing out with his front hooves. Hylas jumped out of the way - the reins whipped through his hands - and Jinx went crashing off into the reeds.

Hylas raced after him, but Jinx was gone.

First Issi and Scram, then that dog, then Telamon, and now Jinx. Some malevolent spirit didn't want him to have any friends.

'Well then all right,' he muttered. 'I'll go it alone.'

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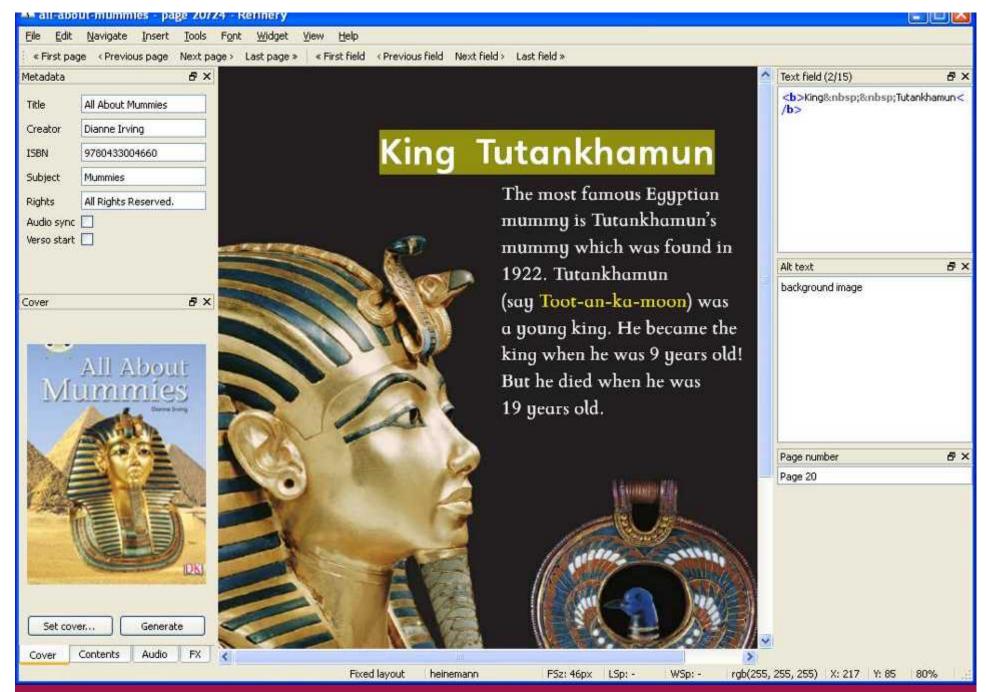


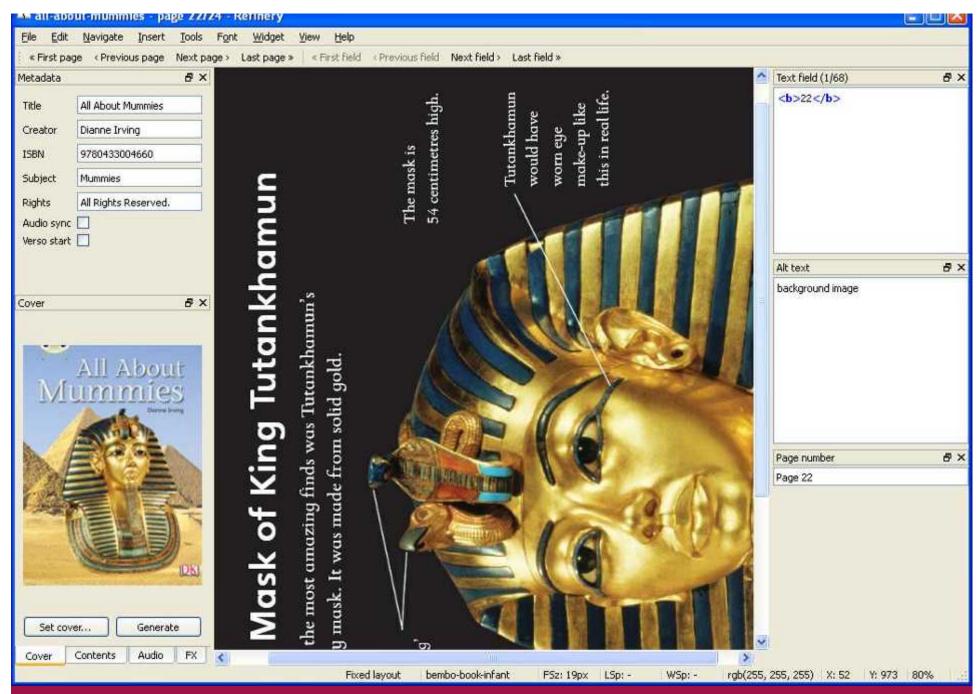


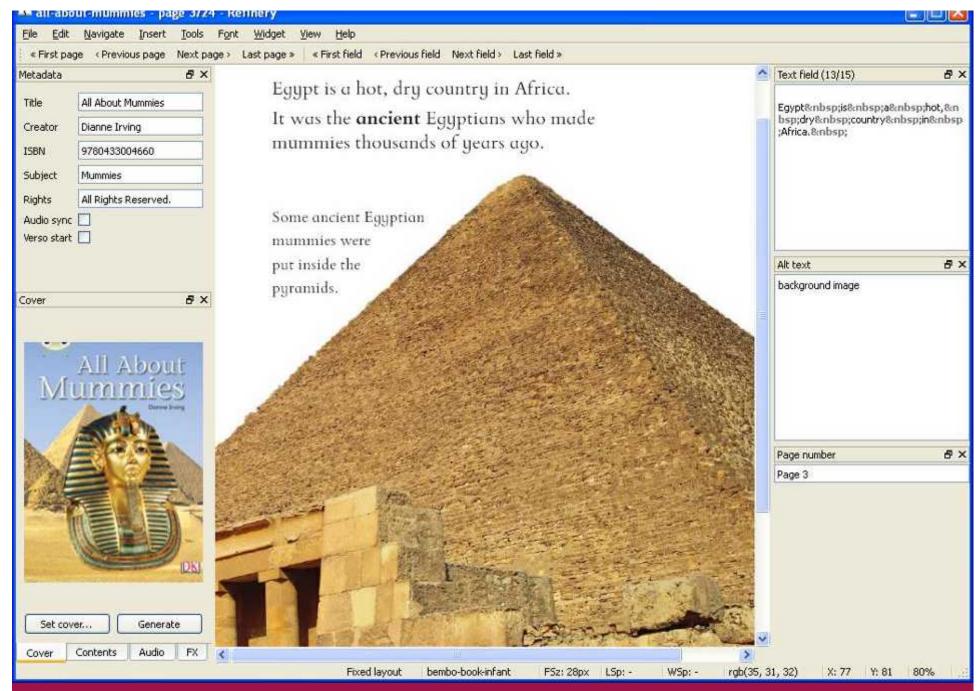
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Accessibility support

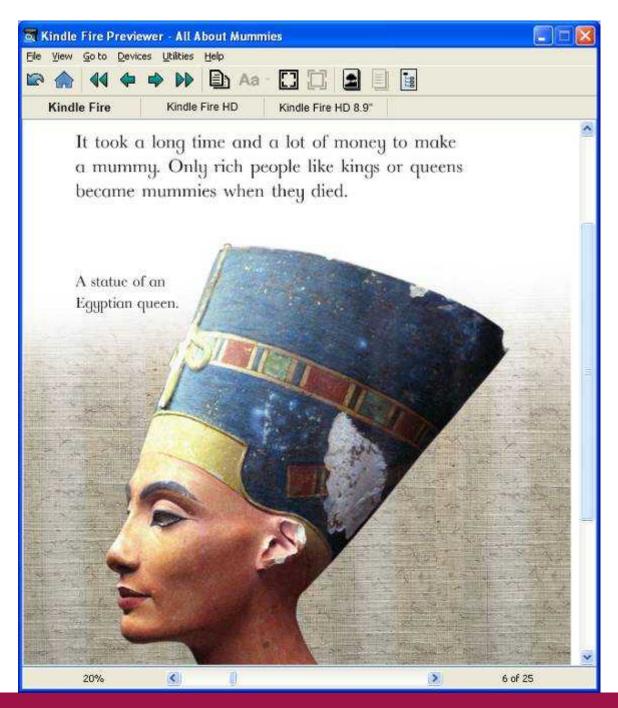
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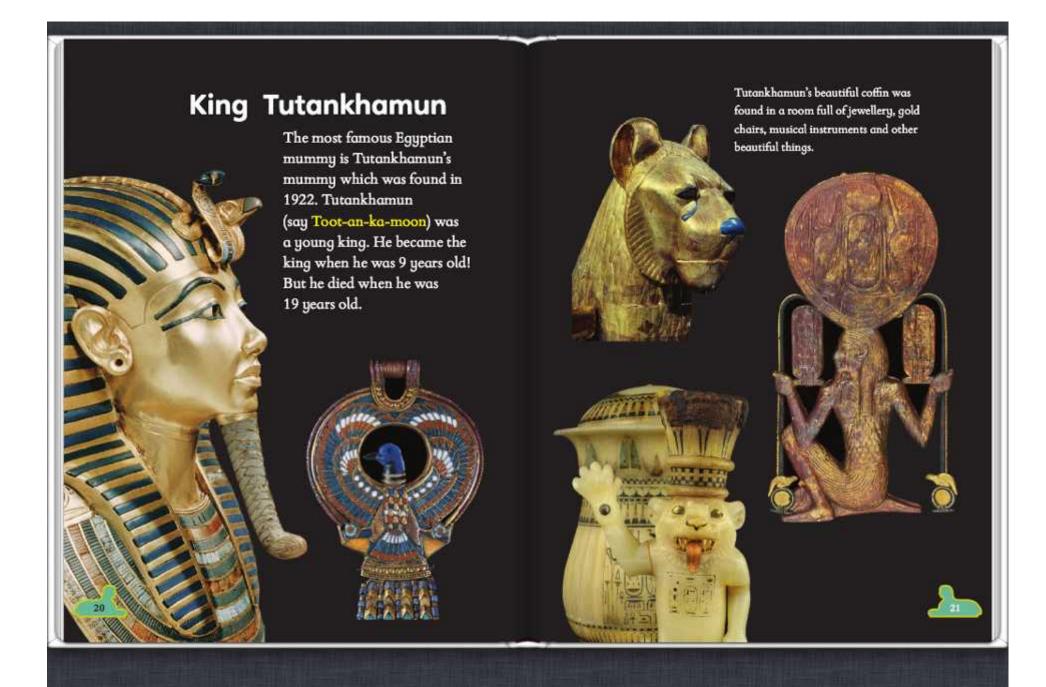






'Reasonable adjustment' is making content available when and where learners with disabilities look for it

















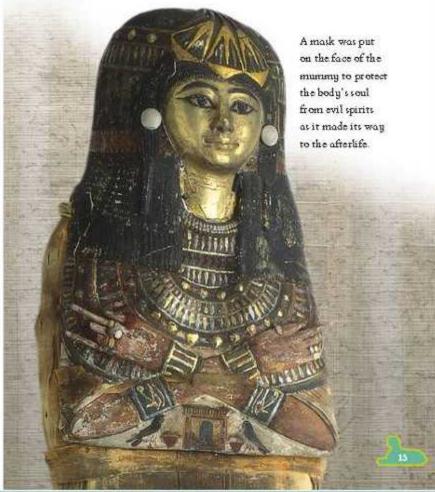




The Egyptians believed that the body would see, hear, eat and drink in the afterlife. So food and drink was left with the mummy.



These men are baving grapes, fish and other food with the muramy to take to the afterlife. Sometimes, the murmy had a face mask.







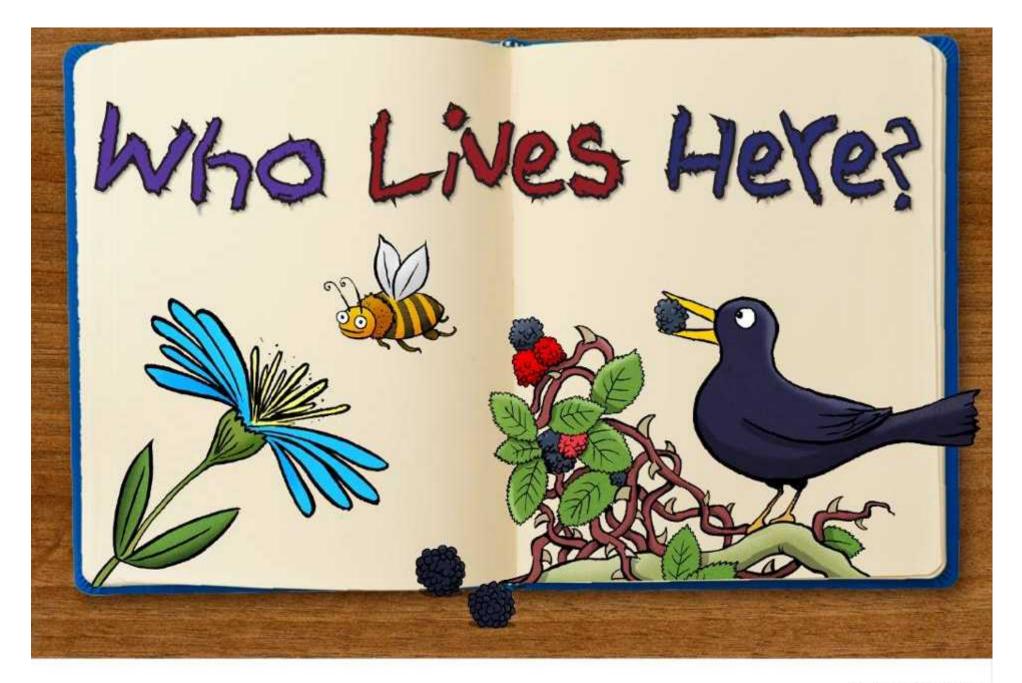


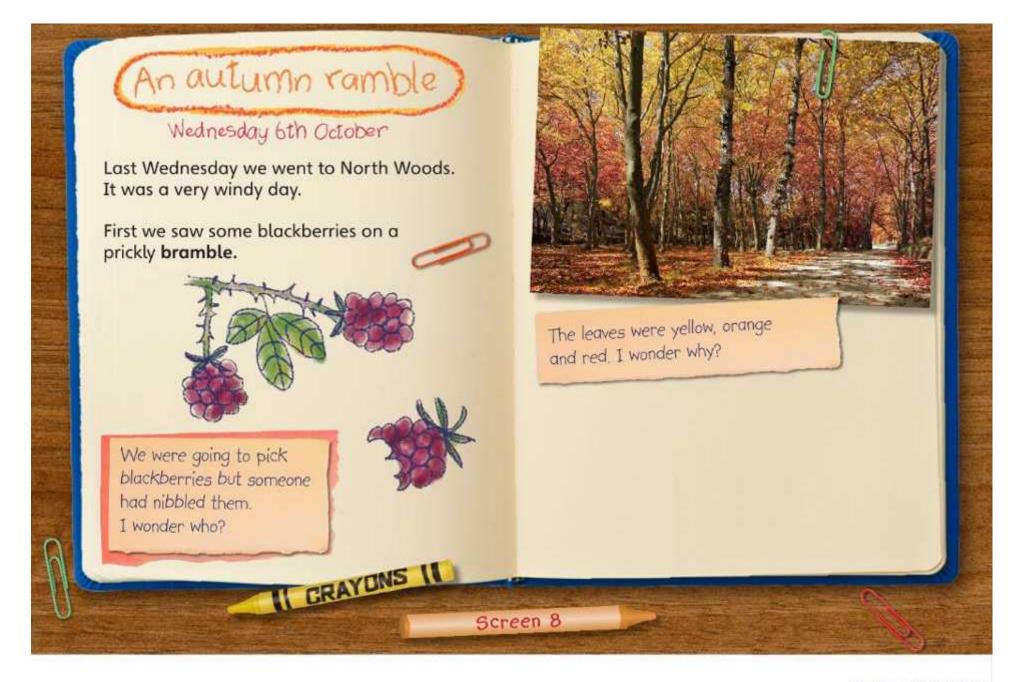


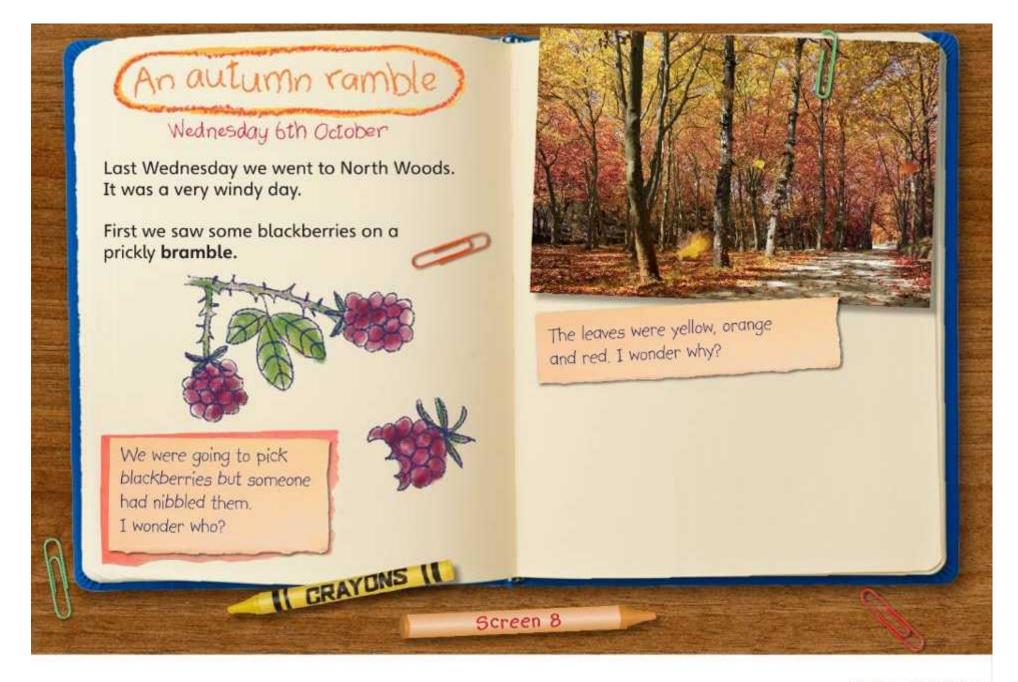
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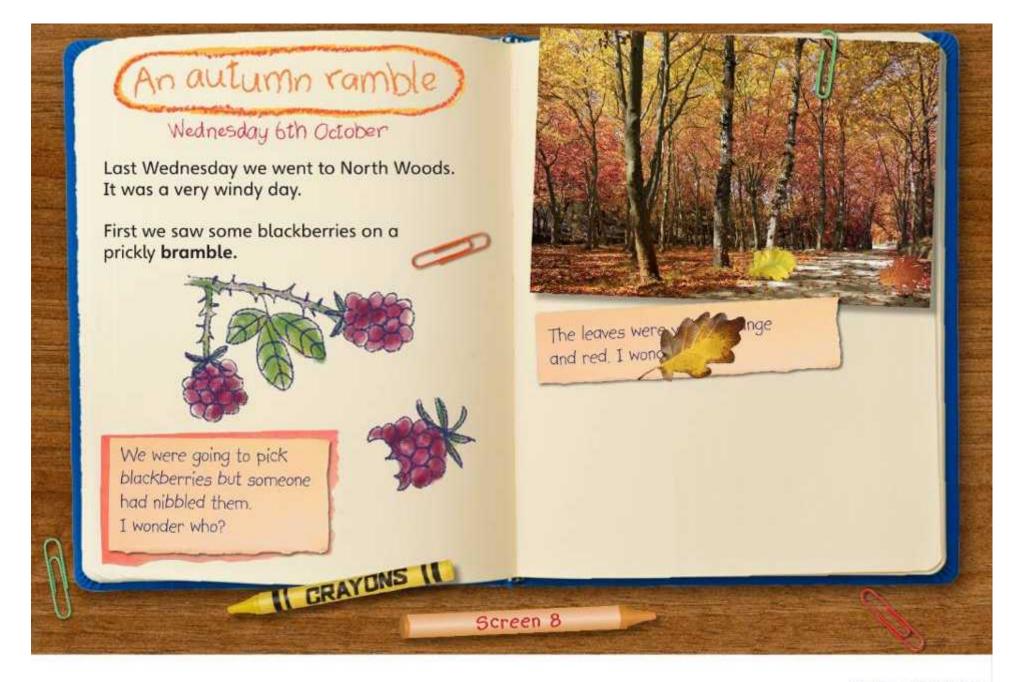


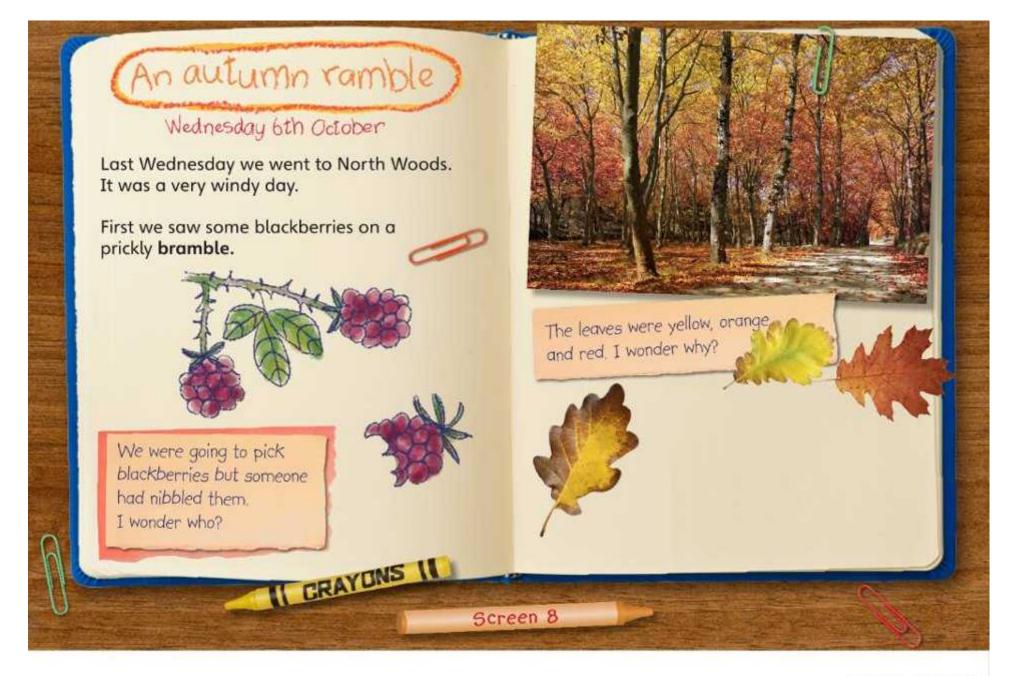












Next steps

- Focus on the learner and the classroom
- Implement PXE/EDUPUB when the fixed layout specification becomes available
- Meet ambitious company-wide goals for accessibility