

Technical aspects *Ricky and the Spider*

Upon receiving payment, an email with a password will be sent to you. With your email-address and this password you log in at <http://www.rickyandthespider.uzh.ch/login.php> and are then able to download *Ricky and the Spider*. The file is about 800 MB. Time for download depends on your internet connection. After download, double-click on RickySetup.exe (or RickySetup.pkg on a Mac) and follow the instructions of the installation program. After installation you can start the game via the start menu (Windows) or the application folder (Mac). When starting the game for the first time, you need an internet connection to activate *Ricky and the Spider*. Fill in your email address and your password and click on 'continue'. The program now checks whether you have actually bought the game.

Ricky and the Spider uses Adobe Flash Player 9; the flash-player is automatically downloaded with the game. To play, click on the file with the red *f*. After the initial screen, a screen with scattered leaves appears, that symbolize the eight different levels of the game. The first level starts with the introduction where the child can choose whether or not to help Ricky and Lisa. A positive reply leads the child directly to level I.

The symbols in the menu have the following meanings; by clicking on the leaf you will return to the scattered leaves, which enables you to choose the level you want to access. The spider web shows you which level you are currently in and the notebook symbolizes the homework for levels I-IV.

At the end of levels I, II and III the notebook will blink in the menu; by clicking on the notebook the interactive worksheet appears. If the child completes the worksheet with only one mistake he or she has successfully completed the level and Dr. Owl will provide the keyword for the next level. When filling in the blanks many spelling mistakes are accepted. It is not necessary to write a complete sentence, one noun is sufficient. For the exercise entitled, "Can you think of any other nicknames?" any letter combination is correct.

When filling out the compulsion map in level IV it may be necessary, depending on the computer being used, to not type in the required number, but to click with your mouse, on the box with the corresponding number. By doing so, an abridged version of Ricky's and Lisa's texts appears. If the child wishes to complete his or her own compulsion map on the computer there is a limit of four lines per text box.

As of level V, the homework consists of exposure tasks. Only the therapist, in cooperation with the parents, can determine if the child has completed the homework satisfactorily. For this reason, at the beginning of level V, the question " Have you completed your homework?" appears. If the therapist clicks "Yes" Dr. Owl will provide the necessary keyword.

As of level V, the four-leaf clover appears in several areas of the game. The child must find out which message on the cloverleaf is most suitable for the situation. As soon as the child clicks on the correct part of the four-leaf clover, the game continues. In order to reaffirm the help strategies that the four-leaf clover represents, you will find two cloverleaves, one empty and one annotated, under therapeutic materials, to print out (to color, decorate etc.).

In Level VIII a small scroll appears in the menu, instead of a notebook. This scroll represents the certificate that Ricky and Lisa receive from Dr. Owl. As soon as the scroll blinks at the end of the level, it is ready to be printed out and signed by the therapist. On the same note, compulsion maps (worksheet number four), certificates and cloverleaves can be found under 'Therapeutic Materials' on the website www.rickyandthespider.uzh.ch and printed out ahead of time.

It is not necessary to save any data of the child on your hard disk.