

# E-BOOK 1

## SAMPLE PAGES

Nº1



### Teaching English to Very Young Learners

Practical and Creative hand-made Resources and ideas for Kindergarten and Early Primary Grades at School.



E-BOOK

## TEACHING VERY YOUNG LEARNERS:

**Teaching a child** could be defined as “**instructing him in a certain area**”.  
**Educating a child**, however, is enabling him to develop mentally, morally, physically and socially.

When 3, 4, 5 year-olds start school, they may never have been away from their mother for any length of time, may have had very little contact with children of their own age or, at the most, may have had contact with only a very small secure group.

Going to Kindergarten and Preschool is an enormous step and the first thing a child has to do, is to become socialized in this environment. This means learning:

- The “Do’s” and “Don’ts” of getting on with others.
- How to be accepted by others and how to accept them.
- How to gradually become independent while taking part of the community.

It is our responsibility as teachers to help our students to develop and mature as well as learn.

Teachers should:

- Enjoy their students.
- Be as relaxed as possible.
- Be firm and consistent in their attitudes.

## THE LANGUAGE LEARNING PROCESS: LANGUAGE ACQUISITION & LANGUAGE LEARNING:

In the language learning process, the first language is acquired through experience and the second language is learned through formal teaching.

**LANGUAGE ACQUISITION** takes place in a constantly stimulating environment: children are exposed to their first language from the very beginning and they are literally bombarded with language all the time.

**LANGUAGE LEARNING:** to facilitate learning, we should try to provide our students with at least some of the stimuli which are present in Language Acquisition.

**If we think of teaching as the other side of learning,  
then by trying to understand better how children learn,  
we will have more understanding of how to teach them**

- ✓ **Learning** is often confused with studying or memorizing. Because we, as adults, have already acquired *Learning Strategies*, we often confuse learning with studying.
- ✓ **Studying** is a tool for learning: it is not learning in itself.

## MAIN AIM OF LANGUAGE TEACHING IN KINDERGARTEN AND EARLY PRIMARY GRADES:

*"Pleasant, gradual and effective acquisition and learning of the English language through interaction and fun in whole meaningful situations"*

From our main aim and principles, we infer that:

### TEACHERS:



### TEACHERS:

- ✓ are "Facilitators".
- ✓ become observers and they interact with their students.
- ✓ should create a positive learning environment, surrounded by foreign language print.
- ✓ expose students continuously to English and do not translate if it is not necessary.
- ✓ demonstrate and model, using body language, gestures, mime, etc.
- ✓ should provide time according to students' needs, interests, learning styles: give time to listen, understand and participate.
- ✓ should provide lots of learning opportunities: practical, meaningful and purposeful. Give same opportunities to everybody.
- ✓ involve children in hands-on activities: children's minds are incredibly open and they learn by absorbing ideas and concepts directly.

### SOME MORE TIPS:

- ✓ Avoid talking for long periods of time: energy level of the classroom drops lower and lower. Explain an activity quickly and then go to it!
- ✓ Keep the energy moving: keep a few extra activities handy for this purpose. Children need lots of stimulation all the time!
- ✓ Use what is learned in different contexts. The more contexts used the better, and the more concrete and 'real life' the contexts the better. Make it real for students by talking about themselves and their lives.
- ✓ Use the 3 Rs: Review, Reinforce, Recycle. New information is absorbed and has meaning when it is related to information children have already learned. Quickly review new concepts at the beginning of each class.
- ✓ Praise, Praise, Praise! Encourage students and build up their confidence.
- ✓ Learning occurs when students are motivated and feel good about themselves.
- ✓ Give positive feedback and congratulate children on what they do, reinforcing students' confidence.



## PLANNING FOR VERY YOUNG LEARNERS:

YOUNG KIDS are usually full of enthusiasm and energy, so lessons should be full of variety and changes of activities.

TEACHERS must be very careful when planning. They should:

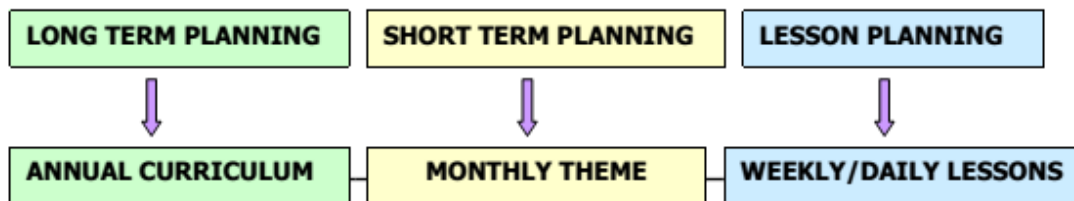
- Be prepared to adapt their plans.
- Estimate how long activities may take.
- Prepare the materials with time.

### GOOD PLANNING:

- Saves and organizes time.
- Gives teachers security and confidence.
- Allows teachers to use more of their energy and enthusiasm to enjoy what they are doing.
- Provides a useful systematic guide for efficient teaching.

### We can divide planning in 3 stages:

- LONG TERM PLANNING.
- SHORT TERM PLANNING.
- LESSON PLANNING.



### TOPIC-BASED SYLLABUS:

The syllabus is your "Course Program"  
THEMES- TOPICS – CENTRES OF INTEREST:



## POCKET CHART FOR CLASSROOM RULES:

Being consistent with the use of RULES facilitates our work!



**T CHART:**

**We can...**

**We cannot...**

## DAILY CIRCLE TIME:

To establish daily patterns of positive behavior while promoting communication in English.

**CIRCLE TIME is where everyone sits together as a group for an activity.**

Listening and Speaking activities can include:

- ✚ Games,
- ✚ Music,
- ✚ Movement,
- ✚ Stories,
- ✚ Puppets and finger plays.



- Generally, the same type of activities are done in the same order each day.



### IMPORTANT:

**Create a regular format for these meetings.**

Teachers should have a clear plan:

To get children's attention.

To greet children.

To call the roll.

To check weather conditions.

To choose Classroom Helpers.

To schedule activities for the lesson/day.

To practice activities which involve movement (TPR / Action songs)

To give out & collect classroom materials.

To start and to stop "written activities".

To tidy up.

## Hello & Good-Bye Songs

RED, YELLOW, WHITE  
AND BLUE

HELLO CHILDREN  
HOW ARE YOU?

I'M FINE...I'M FINE  
THANK YOU !!



THIS IS THE WAY  
WE SAY GOOD-BYE

WE SAY GOOD-BYE  
WE SAY GOOD-BYE

THIS IS THE WAY  
WE SAY GOOD-BYE

WE SAY GOOD-BYE  
TO YOU !!



**TO BE IN SILENCE:**  
(Tune: Twinkle, twinkle)  
"FLYING... FLYING LITTLE  
CLIP...  
IT GOES QUICKLY  
TO MY LIPS... CLIP!"

FLYING, FLYING  
LITTLE CLIP..

IT GOES  
QUICKLY  
TO MY LIPS !!

CLIP...CLIP !!



WE ARE IN SILENCE  
WE ARE IN SILENCE

SHH...SHH...SHH !!!  
SHH...SHH...SHH !!!

WE ARE IN SILENCE  
WE ARE IN SILENCE

SHH...SHH...SHH !!!



**TO CLEAN THE CLASSROOM:**  
(Tune: Arroz con leche)

"It's time to clean,  
To tidy up...  
Put everything in order,  
tomorrow we come back!"

IT'S TIME TO CLEAN

TO TIDY UP

PUT EVERYTHING  
IN ORDER...

TOMORROW  
WE COME BACK !!



CHILDREN PUT THE  
TOYS AWAY !!  
TOYS AWAY !!  
TOYS AWAY !!

CHILDREN PUT THE  
TOYS AWAY !

TIME TO GO !!

