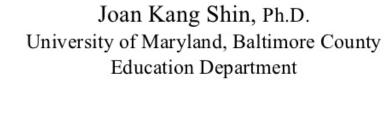
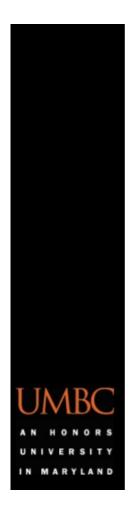


Best Practices for Teaching English to Young Learners







Teaching English to Young Learners (TEYL) is a rapidly

growing field around the world, and English education is increasingly found at the primary levels. However, starting earlier is not necessarily the solution for producing better English speakers. Therefore, what can EFL teachers of young learners do to take advantage of the flexibility of young minds and the malleability of young tongues to grow better speakers of English?



- Introduction to TEYL
- Considerations for teaching young learners
- Effective teaching approaches for young learners
- Useful resources for TEYL



Defining the Group

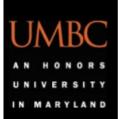
YLs

- Young Learners
- 7-12 years



VYLs

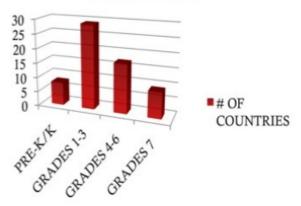
- Very Young Learners
- Under 7





- Data from 63 countries
- ♦ 86% of countries start English instruction in primary school
- Majority start teaching English to very young learners

Compulsory English Education Around the World





Data collected through the E-Teacher Scholarship Program in 2009-2010



- Is earlier really better?
- Characteristics of young learners
- How children learn
- Language learning environment





- Type of program and curriculum
- Number of hours spent in English
- Techniques and activities used

FLEXIBILITY OF YOUNG MINDS
MALLEABILITY OF YOUNG TONGUES



a. Workshop approach

EXPERIFENTLIAL





We remember...

- % of what we read
- % of what we hear
- % of what we see
- % of what we see and hear
- % of what we see, hear, and discuss
- ____% of what we see, hear, discuss, and practice

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Experiential Approach

We remember...

20% of what we read

20% of what we hear

30% of what we see

50% of what we see and hear

70% of what we see, hear, and discuss

90% of what we see, hear, discuss, and practice

Rutgers Cooperative Research & Extension, 2004

As Confucius said...



I hear and I forget.

I see and I remember.

I do and I understand.

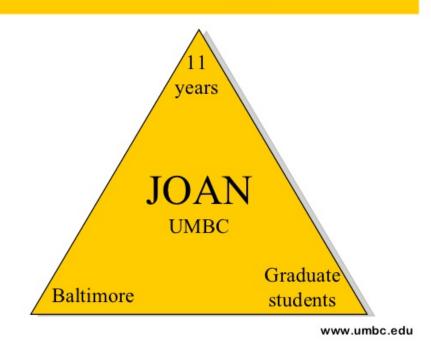




b. Introduction pyramids

- Step 1: Make an introduction pyramid.
- Step 2: Write down information about yourself in the pyramid.
- <u>Step 3</u>: Use the pyramid to introduce yourself to your group members.
- Step 4: Listen to your trainer for the next activity.

b. Introduction pyramids







Adjective Splash

Brainstorm adjectives about YLs.

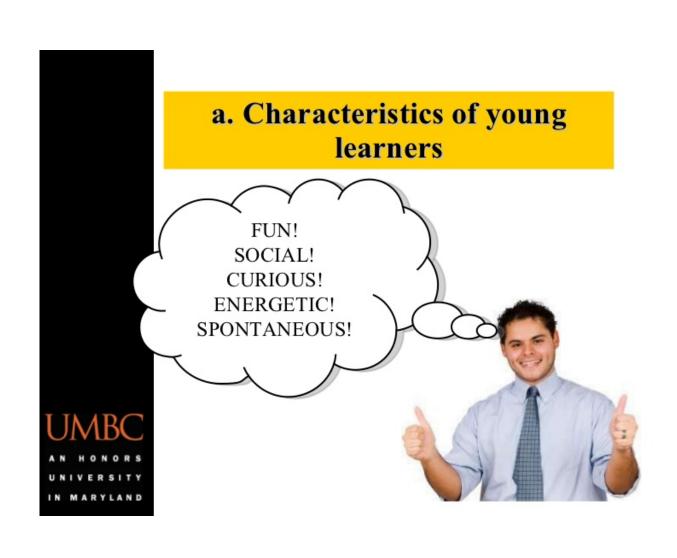






LOUD! HYPER!
CAN'T SIT STILL!
TOO TALKATIVE!
EASILY DISTRACTED!







- Children are active learners and thinkers. (Piaget, 1970)
- Children learn through social interaction. (Vygotsky, 1962)
- Children learn effectively through scaffolding by adults. (Bruner, 1983)





Parents who scaffolded effectively

- · created interest in the task;
- · broke the task down into smaller steps;
- modeled the task, including different ways to do the task;
- kept child "on task" by reminding him of the purpose or goal;
- pointed out the important parts of the task;
- controlled the child's frustration during the task.





L1 environment

- Language highly contextualized
- Language used is authentic
- Learner is highly motivated

L2 environment

- Language more decontextulized
- Language used more artificial
- Learners may not be highly motivated



Approach to grammar

- Meaning-focused input (Pinter, 2008)
- Grammar is "noticed" (Cameron, 2001; Pinter, 2008)
- Learning-centered grammar teaching (Cameron, 2001)



Approach to grammar

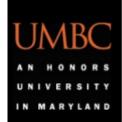
...children see the foreign language 'from the inside' and try to find meaning in how the language is used in action, in interaction, and with intention, rather than 'from the outside' as a system and form.

(Cameron, 2003)



YL Classroom

- Try to imitate the L1 environment!
- Teach language in context!
- Don't teach grammar explicitly!
- Create an English speaking environment in your class!
- Make English fun!







III. Teaching approaches for YLs

We help children learn language when what we ask them to do is...

- ♦ Meaningful
- → Supported
- ♦ Social
- ♦ Purposeful
- → Full of practice

Read, C. (1998, April). The challenge of teaching children. *English Teaching Professional*, 7: 8-10.

a. Demonstration

FOOD



Peanut Butter & Jelly Song

Peanut, peanut butter ~ and jelly!
Peanut, peanut butter ~ and jelly!
First, you take the **peanuts** and
you crunch 'em, you crunch 'em.
Then you take the **grapes** and
you squish 'em, you squish 'em.
Then you take the **bread** and
you spread it, you spread it.
Then you take the **sandwich**and you eat it, you eat it.

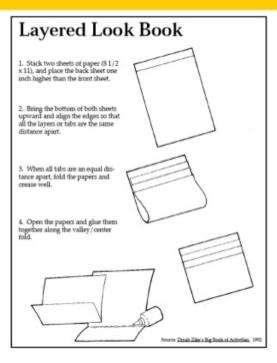






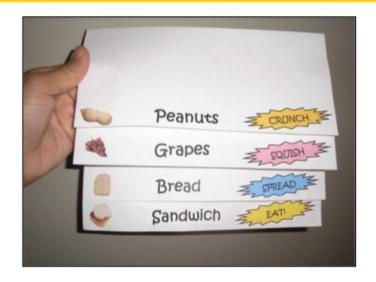


Create a foldable





Foldable example: Key words







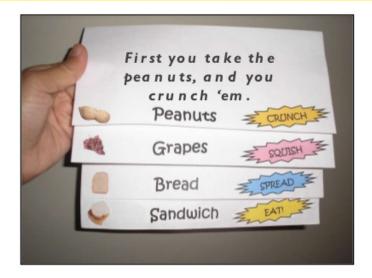
Dish: Peanut Butter & Jelly Sandwich

Peanut, peanut butter ~ and jelly!

	NOUN		VERB
First you take the	peanuts	and you	crunch 'em.
Then you take the	grapes	and you	squish 'em.
Then you take the	bread	and you	spread it.
Then you take the	sandwich	and you	eat it.



Write sentences







Dish: Peanut Butter & Jelly Sandwich

Peanut, peanut butter ~ and jelly!

	NOUN		VERB
First you take the	peanuts	and you	crunch 'em.
Then you take the	grapes	and you	squish 'em.
Then you take the	bread	and you	spread it.
Then you take the	sandwich	and you	eat it.



New recipes from other countries

Dish: Maki Sushi (Japan)

Maki, maki sushi ~ with soy sauce!

	NOUN		VERB
First you take the	rice	and you	spread it.
Then you take the	fish	and you	lay it.
Then you take the	seaweed	and you	roll it.
Then you take the	maki	and you	cut it.
Then you take the	soy sauce	and you	dip it.
Then you take the	sushi	and you	eat it.
	4.3		













Dish from your culture!

	NOUN		VERB
First you take the		and you	
Then you take the		and you	
Then you take the		and you	
Then you take the		and you	
Then you take the		and you	
Then you take the		and you	



What best practices did you see?

Connect to culture

Song with movement

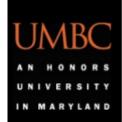
Bring in food

FOOD

 $S_{ ext{caffolding}} \ M_{ ext{odeling}}$

Implicit grammar teaching Social

Humor





b. Ten best practices for TEYL

- 1. Make English learning active and fun
- 2. Use lots of visuals, realia, and movement
- 3. Establish classroom routines in English
- 4. Encourage creativity
- 5. Give students a chance to personalize
- 6. Move from activity to activity
- 7. Check comprehension often
- 8. Use thematic units
- 9. Use L1 as a resource only when necessary
- 10. Grow global citizens through TEIL

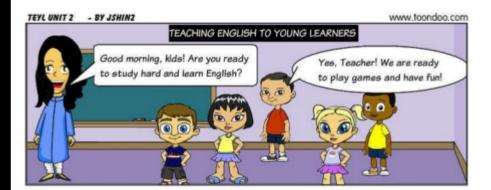
Make English active and fun!

Do not train children to learning by force and harshness, but direct them to it by what amuses their minds, so that you may be better able to discover with accuracy the peculiar bent of the genius of each.

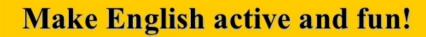
~ Plato



Make English active and fun!



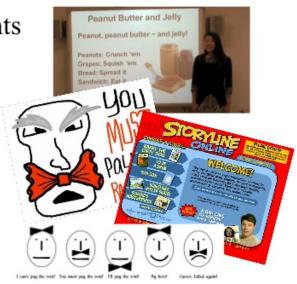




Songs and chants

Storytelling

- Drama
- Games

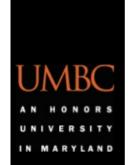






ENGLISH IS FUN! x x xx x
ENGLISH IS COOL! x x xx x
I SPEAK ENGLISH! x x xx x
AND SO DO YOU! x x xx x

YAAAAAY! ENGLISH!



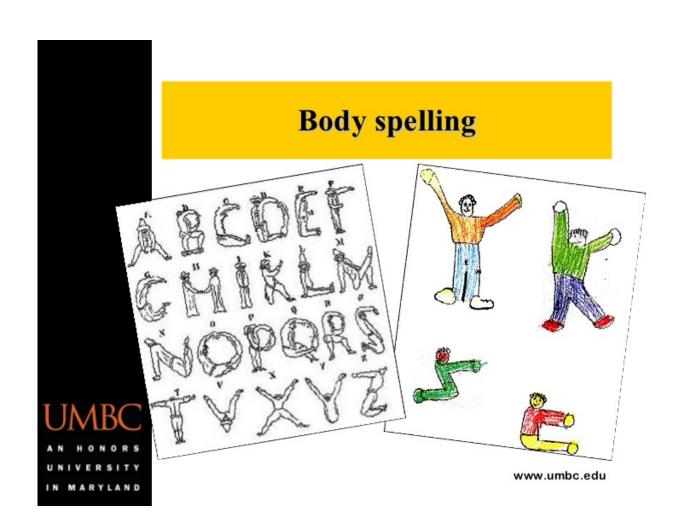


GIVE ME AN E! E!GIVE ME AN N!N! GIVE ME A G!G!GIVE ME AN L!L! GIVE ME AN I!I!GIVE ME AN S!S!GIVE ME AN H! $\mathbf{H}!$

WHAT DOES THAT SPELL? ENGLISH!
WHAT DO WE SPEAK? ENGLISH!
WHAT DO WE LOVE? ENGLISH!

YAAAAAY! ENGLISH!

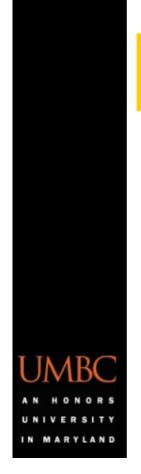




Body spelling





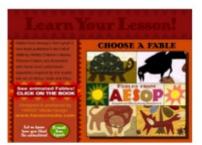


Storytelling

Great websites for storytelling!

http://www.storylineonline.net





Storytelling



http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0Rl0EXetKwc&NR=1



Drama



http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FcIZWGhmkHA



Strip story













I can't pay the rent!















You must pay the ret I can't pay the rent! You must pay the rent! I'll pay the rent!

Curses, foiled again!



Lisa and Rosa run into John on the street.

Lisa: Hi, John! How are you?

John: Hi, Lisa! I'm fine. How are you?

Lisa: I'm good. This is my friend Rosa.

Rosa: Hi! I'm Rosa. (Shake hands with John.)

John: Nice to meet you.

Rosa: Nice to meet you too!



Miming

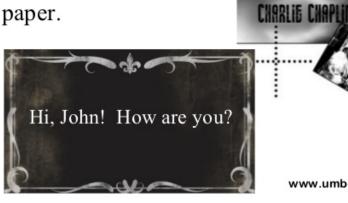
 Act out the dialogue using gestures without speaking out loud.





Silent movie

- Write your lines on paper.
- Practice the dialogue by mouthing the words with no sound and holding up the paper.





The director's cut

 Use a simple dialogue and have the characters do it in different ways: nervously, fearfully, happily, laughing, angrily, and naturally, of course!

(The teacher can act like the director of a movie and say, "Cut! Cut! No, that's not right. I want to see more emotion. Do it with anger this time!")





Use lots of visuals, realia, and movement

I hear, and I forget.
I see, and I remember.
I do, and I understand.

~ Confucius





Songs with movement



http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g_fmPkD1phk&NR=1



The weather song

What's the weather? What's the weather? What's the weather like today? Tell us (student's name), What's the weather? What's the weather like today?

Is it sunny?
Is it cloudy?
Is it rainy out today?
Is it snowy?
Is it windy?
What's the weather like today?









Body as visual





Body as visual



AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE



Connect signs to letters UMBC AN HONORS UNIVERSITY WWW.umbc.edu

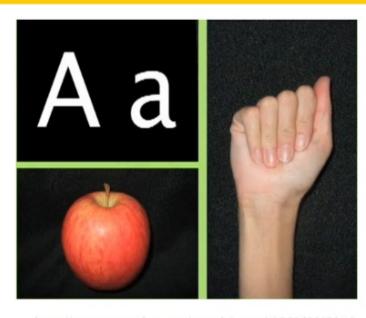


Support for signing

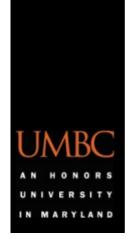
- Engages child's multiple intelligences in representing language symbolically.
- Provides constructive physical outlet for kinesthetic learners.
- Combines "saying and doing," which increases retention of language and concepts by 90%.
- Develops phonemic awareness, the alphabetic principal, vocabulary, and spelling skills.
- Builds comprehension by creating internal images of language.

Dancing With Words: Signing for Hearing Children's Literacy by Marilyn Daniels

Learning the alphabet

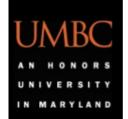


http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wMQHd1UBkeI





- Student says and spells his/her name while acting out something s/he likes to do.
- Children guess what student likes to do.
- Teacher writes information on the board.

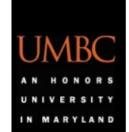


Joan likes to sing and play tennis.

Establish classroom routines in English

You can learn many things from children. How much patience you have, for instance.

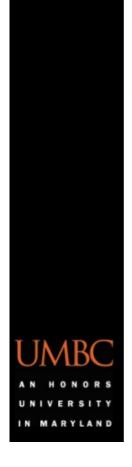
~Franklin P. Jones



Establish classroom routines in English

- Start of class or activity
- Attention getters
- · Brain breaks
- End of class or activity





Developing routines

GREETING		
DATE		
DAY / TIME		
	THE LESSON	ATTENTION GETTERS
THE LESSON		BRAIN BREAK
EXIT TICKET		·
FAREWELL		

© Joan Kang Shin



Developing routines

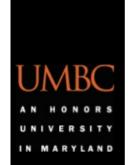
GREETING	Good morning, class! / Good morning, Ms. Shin! How is everyone today? / Great! How are you? ENGLISH CHEER		
DATE			
DAY / TIME			
THE LESSON		ATTENTION GETTERS	
		BRAIN BREAK	
EXIT TICKET	EACH STUDENT TURNS IN ACCORDION BOOK AND GETS A STICKER AS EXIT TICKET.		
FAREWELL	END OF THE DAY CHANT		

© Joan Kang Shin



ENGLISH IS FUN! x x xx x
ENGLISH IS COOL! x x xx x
I SPEAK ENGLISH! x x xx x
AND SO DO YOU! x x xx x

YAAAAAY! ENGLISH!





GREETING	Good morning, class! / Good morning, Ms. Shin! How is everyone today? / Great! How are you? ENGLISH CHEER		
DATE	Class, what is today's date? WRITE ON BOARD Today's date is May 28th, 2011.		
DAY / TIME	DAYS OF THE WEEK SONG		
	THE LESSON	ATTENTION GETTERS	
THE LESSON		BRAIN BREAK	
EXIT TICKET	EACH STUDENT TURNS IN ACCORDION BOOK AND GETS A STICKER AS EXIT TICKET.		
FAREWELL	END OF THE DAY CHANT		

© Joan Kang Shin





7 days in a week song

There are 7 days in a week,
7 days in a week,
7 days in a week,
and I can say them all!
Sunday, Monday and Tuesday,
Wednesday, Thursday and Friday
Saturday is the last day
And I can say them all!

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GJXNz1y1bOg&NR=1



GREETING	Good morning, class! / Good morning, Ms. Shin! How is everyone today? / Great! How are you? ENGLISH CHEER		
DATE	Class, what is today's date? WRITE ON BOARD Today's date is May 28th, 2011.		
DAY / TIME	DAYS OF THE WEEK SONG What day is it today? / It's Friday! And Friday is Storytelling Day!		
Today's story is THE RAINBOW FISH! THE LESSON		ATTENTION GETTERS	
		BRAIN BREAK	
EXIT TICKET	EACH STUDENT TURNS IN ACCORDION BOOK AND GETS A STICKER AS EXIT TICKET.		
FAREWELL	END OF THE DAY CHANT		

© Joan Kang Shin





Sunday, Monday, clap, clap, clap (clap clap clap)

Tuesday, Wednesday, snap, snap, snap (snap snap snap)

Thursday, hop. (hop on one leg)

Friday, stop. (hold up hand)

Saturday spin around like a top. (spin around)

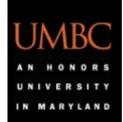
Seven days are in a week. (hold up 7 fingers)

Now sit down and take a seat! (motion to sit)





- 1. What has four legs but never stands?
- 2. What has two hands but can't clap?
- 3. What gets wet while it dries?
- 4. What becomes smaller when you add two letters?
- 5. What word is spelled wrong in every dictionary in the world?
- 6. Which month has 28 days?
- 7. What can you break with only one word?
- 8. Why are Saturday and Sunday stronger than the rest of the days?





(March or stomp feet)

I don't know but I've been told. I don't know but I've been told.

Someone here is getting old. Someone here is getting old.

It is someone's special day. It is someone's special day.

This is what we want to say. This is what we want to say.

Нарру. *Нарру*.

Birthday. Birthday.

Happy birthday—to you! (Say the last line together)



Who do we appreciate?

2-4-6-8!
Who do we appreciate?
(Name), (Name)!
YAAAA~AAAAAY, (Name)!





GREETING	Good morning, class! / Good mor How is everyone today? / Great! I ENGLISH CHEER	0
DATE	Class, what is today's date? WRITE Today's date is May 28th, 2011.	E ON BOARD
DAY / TIME	DAYS OF THE WEEK SONG What day is it today? / It's Friday And Friday is Storytelling Day!	
Today's story	y is THE RAINBOW FISH! THE LESSON	ATTENTIO GETTERS BRAIN BREAK
EXIT TICKET	EACH STUDENT TURNS IN ACC BOOK AND GETS A STICKER AS	
FAREWELL	END OF THE DAY CHANT	© Joan Kang Shin



Attention getter

CALL AND RESPOND

Teacher: 1-2-3 eyes on me!

Students: 1-2 eyes on you!



Attention getter

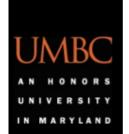
WHEN I SAY -----!

EXAMPLE:

When I say **PEANUT**, you say **BUTTER!**

PEANUT! BUTTER!

PEANUT! BUTTER!



To start pair work



I love English!

I love English!

Yes, I do!

Yes, I do!

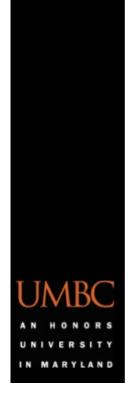
Come and be my partner.

We have lots to learn.

Yes, we do!

Yes, we do!





Brain breaks

- Seat Running: Sit and run.
- Shake Shakes: Shake one hand (or foot) for 3 seconds then the other. Repeat 5x.
- Close your eyes and breathe in, breathe out (5x)
- Nosey Ear Get your left hand to touch your right ear lobe and then get your right hand to touch the tip of your nose. Then swap positions. Repeat 5x.



GREETING	Good morning, class! / Good mor How is everyone today? / Great! ENGLISH CHEER	
DATE	Class, what is today's date? WRIT. Today's date is March 11th, 201	
DAY / TIME	DAYS OF THE WEEK SONG What day is it today? / It's Friday And Friday is Storytelling Day	
Today's story is THE RAINBOW FISH! THE LESSON		ATTENTIO RAINBOW, you say FISH. BRAIN BREAK Shake shakes
EXIT TICKET	EACH STUDENT TURNS IN ACC BOOK AND GETS A STICKER A	
FAREWELL	TICKET. END OF THE DAY CHANT	© Joan Kang Shin



End of the day chant



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IN MARYLAND

Encourage creativity

There are no seven wonders of the world in the eyes of a child. There are seven million.

~ Walt Streightiff



Encourage creativity

- Student-made visuals
- Poetry





Accordion book



Free Activities

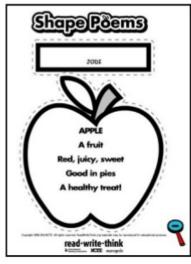


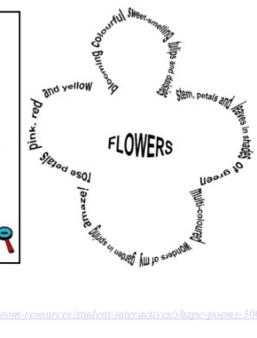






Shape poems





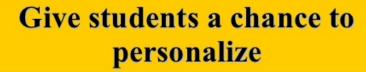




We worry about what a child will become tomorrow, yet we forget that he is someone today.

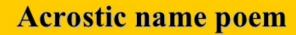
~ Stacia Tauscher





- Students write and talk about themselves
- Students compare content to their own culture and lives







J umping

O verjoyed

A thletic

N ever tired!





- Give learners chances to write and talk about themselves (using the forms or models you provide)
- Give learners a chance to notice grammatical structures
- Give learners more chances to practice



JAZZ CHANT BY CAROLYN GRAHAM

What Are You Going To Do When You're Twenty-Two?

What are you going to do when you're twenty-two?

I haven't decided. What about you?

I might climb a mountain. I might go to France. I might write a story.

I might learn to dance.

Where are you going to be when you're twenty-three?

I might be in Paris.
I might be in Rome.
I might be in Turkey.
I might be home.

What are you going to be when you're ninety-three?

I'm going to be old when I'm ninety-three.

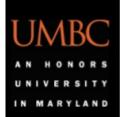
What are you going to do when you're one hundred and two?

I haven't decided. What about you?









Jazz chant example

What are you going to do when you're twenty-two?

I haven't decided. What about you?

I might	
I might	
I might	
I might	





Move from activity to activity

Every student can learn, just not on the same day, or the same way.

~ George Henry Evans























Move from activity to activity

- Don't spend too much time on one activity
- Use different kinds of activities
 - ♦ Quiet vs noisy activities
 - ♦Listening, speaking, reading, writing
 - ❖Individual pair work group work whole class
 - ♦ Teacher-student and student-student
 - ♦ Vary learning styles and intelligences



HENRY HUSH

(Tune: London Bridge is Falling Down)

Henry Hush says,
"Please be quiet,
Please be quiet,
Please be quiet."
Henry Hush says,

"Please be quiet."

Sh! Sh! Sh!







HERE IS A TURTLE

Here is a turtle.

He lives in a shell.

He likes his home

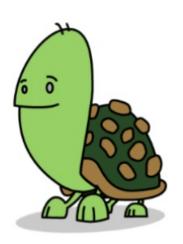
Very well.

When he gets hungry

He comes out to eat.

Then goes back to his house

To sleep.









"Let's go to sleep,"
The little caterpillars said.
As they tucked themselves
Quietly in bed.
When they awake
By and by,
Each one will be
A pretty butterfly









- Quietly think about the riddle of the day
- Put your head down on your desk
- Close your eyes and breathe in, breathe out (5x)
- Close your eyes and roll your head around (5x)



Check comprehension often

"Do you understand?" ~ Every teacher "Yes, teacher!" ~ Every student





Ask questions frequently that require a response

♦ Q & point

♦ Q & move

♦ Q & do

♦ Q & sign

♦ Q & say





- · Use games to check comprehension
 - ♦ Charades for new vocabulary
 - Make a fake mistake (e.g., say words out of order or use the wrong pronunciation)
 - ♦ Freeze frame scenes from a story





Silent reading

- Read a passage and teacher checks comprehension with no noise.
- Students have to answer using sign language.







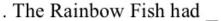




Sample question

Once there was a fish. He was the most beautiful fish in the entire ocean. He had many different colored scales. His scales were the colors of the rainbow. He also had shiny silver scales. All the fish in the ocean called him the Rainbow Fish.

ext adapted from The Rainbow Fish by Marcus Pfister



- » Red
- » Brown
- » Silver
- » a and c
- » All of the above

scales.



Use thematic units

You don't understand anything until you learn it more than one way.

~ Marvin Minsky



Use thematic units

- Repeat and recycle language as much as possible
- Connect language to other content areas



The weather song

What's the weather? What's the weather? What's the weather like today? Tell us (student's name), What's the weather? What's the weather like today?

Is it sunny?
Is it cloudy?
Is it rainy out today?
Is it snowy?
Is it windy?
What's the weather like today?









Repeat and recycle

1	Vocabulary	Grammar	Recycle	Content
WHAT'S THE WEATHER LIKE TODAY?	sunny cloudy rainy snowy windy	Questions/contractions What's the weather like today? It's today. Is it?		Function: Describing weather
WHAT SHOULD I WEAR?	sunglasses raincoat trench coat scarf ear muffs hat mittens/gloves carry umbrella	Modals You should You'd better	it's today.	Function: Giving advice
WHAT'S THE WEATHER LIKE IN THE U.S.?	seasons winter spring summer fall	Prepositional phrases in the U.S./Peru/etc in December in winter	What's the weather like? It's Is it?	Seasons in different countries
WHAT'S THE TEMPERATURE?	Celsius Fahrenheit degrees boiling below freezing room temperature	in celsius in fahrenheit	What's the? It's	Math/science

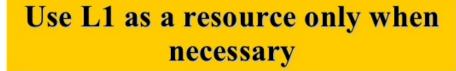


Use L1 as a resource only when necessary

Don't handicap your children by making their lives easy.

~ Robert A. Heinlein





- Quick translation of hard words or expressions
- Translate difficult instructions for activities
- · Focus on language objectives



Grow global citizens

Children are the world's most valuable resource and its best hope for the future.

~ John Fitzgerald Kennedy







Remember you are not *just* teaching English! You are teaching YOUNG LEARNERS!

- · Encourage and praise them!
- Help them build good character!
- · Create life long learners of English!
- Build positive attitudes toward English!
- Start teaching intercultural sensitivity early!

You are teaching English as an international language!





3

2

1

GOOD-BYE!





Conclusion: Exit ticket

- $3\ \mathrm{ways}\ \mathrm{you}\ \mathrm{can}\ \mathrm{make}\ \mathrm{English}\ \mathrm{active}\ \mathrm{and}\ \mathrm{fun}$
- 2 routines you will use to help you manage YLs
- 1 sentence that starts with "When you teach YLs, you must..."

GOOD-BYE!



Helpful articles about TEYL:

Ten Helpful Ideas for Teaching English to Young Learners by Joan Kang Shin

http://ex.changes.state.gov/englishteaching/forum/archives/docs/06-44-2-b.pdf

Teaching Young Learners by Kerstin Klein http://ex.changes.state.gov/englishteaching/forum/archives/docs/05-43-1-c.pdf

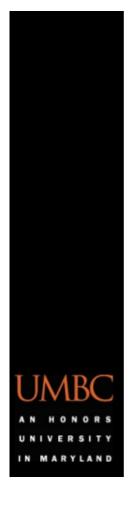
For other useful articles, please browse these special issues of the English Teaching Forum focused specifically on TEYL.

Volume 44, Number 2

http://ex.changes.state.gov/englishteaching/forum/archives/2006/06-44-2.html

Volume 43, Number 1

http://ex.changes.state.gov/englishteaching/forum/archives/2005/05-43-1.html



Useful web resources for TEYL

Songs and Chats

Joan's songs and chants: http://www.youtube.com/user/steptforells U.S. Department of State "Sing Out Loud": http://exchanges.state.gov/englishteaching/resforteach/pubcat/classtext/iskills/solcs.html

Storytelling

Storyline Online: http://www.storylineonline.net

Aesop's Fables: http://us.penguingroup.com/static/packages/us/yreaders/aesop/index.html Interactive stories: http://www.woodlands-junior.kent.sch.uk/interactive/onlinestory.htm Making stories online: http://storybird.com

American sign language

http://www.lifeprint.com http://www.nellieedge.com

Making books

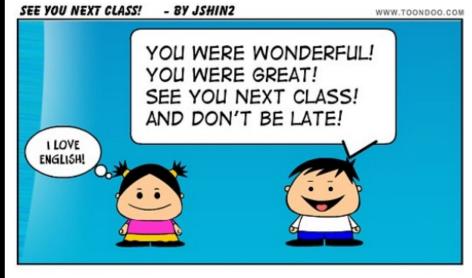
http://www.makingbooks.com http://www.youtube.com/user/skgaylord

Writing poems
http://www.readwritethink.org/classroom-resources

Making cartoons

http://www.toondoo.com

Last chant



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