



CREATIVE WAYS OF TEACHING ENGLISH IN KINDERGARTEN

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ABSTRACT

Teaching English in kindergartens is an important task that requires making the language learning process of children engaging and effective. This study examines creative ways to teach English to young learners. Techniques include interactive games, creating images and stories, teaching language using songs and dances, role-playing, using nature, working with colors and words, and approaches such as theater and dramatization. The article discusses how these activities are helpful to increase children's vocabulary in English and help them to master the language quickly and efficiently. This article examines the inventive and creative methods of teaching English in kindergartens, including games, stories, songs, and other teaching strategies. These methods work well for teaching language to kids and make the lessons engaging and remembered.

Keywords: Kindergarten, creative teaching techniques, interactive games, English vocabulary enhancement, picture stories, language teaching through songs, role-playing, creative teaching methods.

INTRODUCTION

The globalized modern world calls for the growing societies to educate English to young people from early age to guarantee their adoption to international life. Language teaching for young children plays an important role in developing their thinking skills and shaping their social skills. Teaching English in kindergartens not only provides an opportunity for children to learn a new language but also introduces them to new cultures and develops logical thinking and creative approaches. However, the success of this process depends on whether it is interesting and effective. We should consider the learning capacities or viability of a child's brain when evaluating instructional strategies for younger learners.

"As a general rule, it can be assumed that the younger the children are, the more holistic learners they will be. Younger learners respond to language according to what it does or what they can do with it, rather than treating it as an intellectual game or abstract system" (Phillips, 1993). This means language learning for younger children should focus on practical applications and real-world scenarios to engage them effectively. By incorporating hands-on activities and interactive experiences, educators can help young learners develop language skills in a more natural and meaningful way. This approach can also help children make connections between language and real-life situations, leading to a deeper understanding and retention of the material. Additionally, providing opportunities for young learners to use language in authentic contexts can increase their motivation and confidence in using the

language. This can ultimately lead to better language acquisition and fluency as children are actively applying what they have learned in a meaningful way. Encouraging real-world communication can also foster a sense of accomplishment and pride in their language abilities. A comparable concept states: "Children are born with a rich array of intelligences that they use to understand and engage with the world in a holistic, experiential way." (Gardner, 1991) Howard Gardner's theory of multiple intelligences suggests that children possess different types of intelligences, and they may demonstrate a preference for holistic learning when young, using language as a means to explore the world. Gardner's view emphasizes the idea that young children are more likely to learn through exploration and experiences, rather than abstract reasoning or isolated learning tasks.

Teaching English to children should be fun, interaction and interesting, Young children can learn language easily with paying different games. Wendy A. Scott and Lisbeth H. Ytreberg in Teaching English to Children (1990) emphasize the importance of using interactive methods to teach young learners. These methods include games, songs, stories, and role-playing, which help children absorb language naturally while having fun. Similarly, Elkind (The Power of Play 2007), play is not just about fun—it's fundamental for cognitive development. Through play, children develop problem-solving skills, creativity, and the ability to think critically. By engaging in activities like puzzles, games, and role-playing, children build cognitive skills that support language learning and overall intellectual growth. Interactive methods also promote social interaction and collaboration among young learners, enhancing their communication skills and confidence. By incorporating play-based activities into language learning, educators can create a stimulating and engaging environment that fosters holistic development in children.

The following are some effective creative teaching techniques that encourage students to actively participate, learn new things, and think critically. Unlike traditional teaching methods, these techniques increase the interest and motivation of young learners, who are more involved in the learning process.

Interactive Games-An Effective Approach To Teaching English Interactive games are an effective way to actively involve students in the course process. Through games, children make language learning fun and passionate. This method not only helps in the study of knowledge, but also develops the social skills of children, helps to strengthen their memory and helps to apply the studied material in practice. The following is a detailed overview of some of the interactive games used in teaching English.

1. **Flashcard Games** Flashcard games are one of the most popular and effective interactive games for children. Through this game, students learn to remember new words, understand their meanings, and work with them.
2. **Example: Word Finding Game:** Show English words with pictures or cards. Readers were told "What is this?", and they have to say the answer in English.
3. **Memory Game:** place the cards face down to find two similar pairs of Cards. Students take turns rotating cards to find their mates. This game develops students' ability to remember words.

Illustrated stories are a very effective and interesting way to teach English. This technique helps students learn new words, phrases, and grammar rules, as well as developing their creative thinking and imagination skills. Pictorial narratives help students remember words in context by associating the material they learn with the

scenes depicted. This method is especially fun for children and makes the teaching process interactive. Below is a detailed description of the different ways and benefits of working with illustrated stories.

1. What Are Picture Stories?

Pictorial storytelling is the process of creating a story using pictures or illustrations. Readers see several pictures and write or speak a short story based on them. Illustrated stories are usually very effective for children or beginner readers, as they make language learning much easier by using images.

2. Illustrated stories and language learning Illustrated stories help children make the English learning process fun and productive. In pictorial narratives, readers learn new words and phrases in context. This will help students understand the meaning of words and work with them. On the other hand, in the process of creating a story, children develop their thinking, imagination, and creative abilities.

3. Examples: Word learning: for example, when a child is playing with a toy in a picture, students learn words like "play," "toy," "happy," etc. Readers use these words in the story, based on the picture. Grammar learning: students use verbs to describe actions when describing an image, such as "the boy is playing with the toy" or "the dog is running fast."

Creative English teaching methods in kindergarten focus on engaging young learners through fun, interactive, and dynamic activities. These methods aim to enhance language development by making learning enjoyable and relevant to children's everyday experiences. Some key approaches include play-based learning, storytelling, music and rhymes, interactive technology, Total Physical Response (TPR), language immersion, arts and crafts, peer learning, visual aids, and routine-based learning. Research shows that play-based learning is highly effective, with 95% of educators believing it is essential for cognitive and language development. Storytelling and picture books help increase vocabulary and comprehension, with children exposed to these techniques showing significantly improved language skills. Music and rhymes also support pronunciation and memorization, with studies indicating that children involved in musical activities have enhanced language acquisition.

Interactive technologies, such as apps and games, have also proven effective in promoting English proficiency, with 70% of teachers using digital tools in their classrooms. Techniques like TPR, which incorporate physical movement with language learning, help improve vocabulary retention, while language immersion programs have shown that children in such environments acquire language faster than in traditional settings.

Songs. Songs are a highly effective tool for teaching English to kindergarten children as they combine rhythm, repetition, and melody, which help reinforce language learning in a fun and engaging way. Through songs, children are exposed to vocabulary, pronunciation, and sentence structures in a memorable context, making it easier for them to recall and use new words. The repetitive nature of songs helps improve listening skills and boosts children's confidence in speaking as they mimic the lyrics. Additionally, songs often involve movement, gestures, or actions, which further enhance the connection between language and physical activity, catering to different learning styles. Overall, songs create an enjoyable, interactive

environment that promotes language acquisition while supporting cognitive and social development (Murphey, 1992).

In conclusion, teaching English to young learners, particularly in kindergarten, plays a crucial role in shaping their cognitive, social, and linguistic development. By adopting creative, interactive, and play-based teaching methods, educators can make the language learning process enjoyable and effective. Approaches such as role-playing, games, storytelling, music, and the use of visual aids not only engage children but also make learning more relatable to their everyday experiences. As research shows, these methods support the development of language skills, enhance motivation, and promote a deeper understanding of the material. Ultimately, creating a dynamic and stimulating learning environment fosters the holistic development of young learners and sets the foundation for successful language acquisition. Through these innovative approaches, we can ensure that children are not only learning English but are also building essential skills for their future success in a globalized world.

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