

PECULIARITIES OF TEACHING ENGLISH TO YOUNG CHILDREN

Shahzoda Tohirjon qizi Yusupova

PhD on philology

Tashkent State University of Law, Tashkent, Uzbekistan

abdurahimova_shahzoda@mail.ru

Young students in the English language classroom present a special combination of challenges and opportunities. Younger children are more prone to losing focus than older kids because they have shorter attention spans. More frequent breaks or opportunities for movement, as well as structure and routine, may be beneficial to them. The finest learning for younger students generally involves doing and interacting with other kids. Like students of all ages, young learners need to have a connection to what is being taught and a sense of involvement in their own learning process. Furthermore, if a classroom is not well controlled, young students may exhibit a particular set of behavioral problems.

If teachers and students properly consider and prepare for each of these needs, working with young learners can be a very rewarding experience for everyone involved. Young language learners can benefit from hands-on activities, music, movement, and pictures in an English language school. The ideal way to teach younger students is to repeat content regularly and in a consistent manner, which can facilitate teacher preparation.

Younger kids have much lower attention spans than older students do. Young students require several opportunities to move around, rest and socialize. They also enjoy sharing details about their personal histories and adventures.

In contrast to adults, most young learners are persuaded to enroll in English by their parents. Therefore, our goal as their teachers is to establish a welcoming, upbeat, exciting, and, of course, secure learning atmosphere in the classroom where, given the option, they would choose to spend their time. Younger students respond better to teachers who they perceive as genuinely curious about them and excited to participate in their world. We want to create a dynamic where students are rushing to get to your classroom so they can tell you about their day. Building trusting relationships with your pupils is essential.

For both safety and harmony, good classroom management is crucial in a setting where young learners are present. Children will feel more at home in the classroom and have a clear sense of their place in it if there are established, simple routines and shared duties from the beginning.





There are some basic techniques that can be applied successfully in teaching young learners.

1. Using realia.

You can bring the items from home or ask your kids to bring them if you are reading a book or narrative that introduces new terminology for a specific topic. Bring in a toothbrush, toothpaste, soap, towel, and hairbrush, for instance, if you are reading a book about morning routines. For young learners, interacting with these things will bring the narrative to life and help them develop connections to the subject matter. Use your students' attire as a visual when studying the names of various clothing pieces, or ask them to bring items to associate with the phrases.

Young students appreciate it when teachers use real-world items or props to bring concepts and stories to life. This not only gives subject examples from real-world situations, but it also makes students feel more personally connected to the knowledge they are learning.

2. Using music and songs.

Songs are a fantastic approach to teach young students material that you already use in your daily activities. Numerous songs are freely accessible online for students learning the alphabet, letter sounds, numbers, shapes, colors, or other fundamental vocabulary. If you have a way to project them in your classroom, you can use some songs' visuals, such as movies or photographs. If not, you can still use the songs together with your lesson plans and classroom posters. It is crucial to check the suitability of the information before using it in the classroom.

3. Using physical movement.

By having kids use and hear English for tasks that need their hands, eyes, and ears, such as constructing things, drawing drawings, solving puzzles, labeling photographs, matching words and pictures, playing games, and other physical activities, you can connect language acquisition to physical activity. TPR exercises are frequently used in the classroom (activities based on linking language with actions, drawing on the method known as total physical response). This idea is used in a lot of listening games for young kids, including ones where kids listen and respond to orders (like "sit down," "turn around," or "touch your nose,"), listen and select an image, listen and create an image, or listen and count the actions in an image.

Children's skills might change significantly over time, so it's crucial to let them demonstrate their abilities rather than label them based on our expectations. We should never forget that our assumptions about our students have an impact on how they react to us.





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