

GAMES TO LEARN ENGLISH

ERASMUS + iBUILD IT WORKSHOP TO
LEARN NEW GAMES OR RENEW OLD ONES



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of the European Union



WHO ARE WE?

1

Paula Havukainen

Master of Education,
Primary school teacher
specialized in early years
education in primary
school.

I'm interested in early
English language
teaching.

I work as a primary
school teacher in grade
2 and teach English in
primary school to other
classes.

2

Satu Malinen

Master of Arts
teaching English and
Swedish at Kimpinen
Secondary School in
Lappeenranta.

My job also involves
teaching Swedish
basics to 6th graders
in primary school.

3

Hanna Seppänen

Master of Arts,
specialized in foreign
language teaching in
English, Spanish and
French.

I'm currently working
at Kimpinen school in
Lappeenranta, Finland.

I teach English in
secondary school and
Spanish in primary
school.

Simple

Supports memory and emotion management

Helps you overcome mistakes and not be afraid of them

Makes learning pronunciation fun

Motivates

Easy way to differentiate

Boosts self-esteem and of course self-reliance

Lowers the bar to practise oral skills

Easy

Supports self-efficacy

FUN

Easy way to start using more action based learning methods in your classroom

WHY USE GAMES?

Really good way to learn vocabulary

The most natural way for a child to learn!

Learning doesn't always have to be rocket science

You learn basic skills like waiting for your turn and people skills

Gives courage



SILENCE PLEASE



I say and clap:

One, two, three, eyes on me!

You say back and clap:

One, two, eyes on you!

Pssst!

When you clap and use sign gestures, it helps students to turn their concentration on you.

GOOD MORNING

Reissureino
Vorder Hamma Str.
✈️

BASICS

This is a good game for 15-20 students.

You only need a volunteer

WHAT DOES IT TEACH?

Waiting for your turn

Greetings

Vocabulary and pronunciation

Fun way to practice drama!

IDEAS FOR

DIFFERENTIATION

The student asks, "Is it You?"

The student asks: "Was it You?"
and the others answer "Yes, it was" or "No, it wasn't".

PSST!

You can also use other greetings such as:
"Good evening"
"Merry Christmas"
"How are you?"
etc.



The Rocket game

ORISSUREINO!
Lake Hanna Set

BASICS

You don't need anything special.

You can play this with the whole group.

WHAT DOES IT TEACH?

Waiting for your turn and concentration

Numbers and counting

Vocabulary and pronunciation

IDEAS FOR DIFFERENTIATION

STEP 1 Use numbers 1-10

STEP 2 Use the numbers 11-20

STEP 3 Use only tens

STEP 4 Use hundreds

STEP 5 Count backwards

PPSSST!

Use rock-paper-scissors to decide who's the winner

This is a really good way to drill those numbers!



RUNNING SENTENCES

Reissureino
Wald Hanna Sch

BASICS

You will need:

Sentences written on a paper.

Notebook or piece of paper for each pair.

Students work in pairs.

WHAT DOES IT TEACH?

Waiting for your turn

Vocabulary and pronunciation

Listening, reading and writing

A fun way to learn a piece of text

Supports memory development

IDEAS FOR DIFFERENTIATION

STEP 1 The sentences are on the same piece of paper in the corridor.

STEP 2 The sentences are along the corridor, so the student has to search for them.

STEP 3 The students translate the sentences together.

PSSST!

If you feel like being sneaky, you can hide the sentences somewhere out of sight.



HUTCHY PUTCHY

BASICS

Good game for 10-15 students

You will need:

A mat for each student as a place marker.

A small mascot "Hutchyputchy" that fits in the palm of your hand.

WHAT DOES IT TEACH?

Waiting your turn and concentration

Vocabulary and pronunciation

Very easy way to use action based learning

There are multiple ways to differentiate this game. Once you teach the game to your students you can easily modify the game based on your topic.

IDEAS FOR DIFFERENTIATION

- STEP 1** The one in the middle asks, "What's your name?" and the others answer "My name is..".
- STEP 2** The person in the middle asks "What do you like?" and the others answer "I like.."
- STEP 3** The one in the middle asks: "What are/were you doing?" and the others answer, for example, "I'm walking my dog/I was walking my dog"
- STEP 4** The one in the middle asks: "What would you.. and the others answer, for example: "I would.."



PSSST!

Make sure that you put a lot of thought into choosing the mascot.

This particular one is the best ever!

READING COMPREHENSION SPACE

Dr. Reissureino
Julia Hanna Sill
✈️

BASICS

It's best to do with 10 students at a time so you can make sure that everyone can do the task.

You will need:

Riddle cards and corresponding picture cards.

Answer sheet for children (can also be written in their own booklet).

WHAT DOES IT TEACH?

Amazing way to add action based learning!

Reading and vocabulary

Adjectives and describing things, numerals..

Problem solving skills

Supports memory development

In this task you can practise multiple skills and there is endless amount of possibilities to differentiate!

IDEAS FOR DIFFERENTIATION

- STEP 1 Go through together what the words on the picture cards are.
- STEP 2 You can work with partners or alone

PSSST!

This is a fun and effective way to teach reading and reading comprehensive skills!

I use this in Finnish to teach basic reading skills to 1st and 2nd graders!



THE FLY SWATTER

BASICS

Fun game for two teams, each has 6-8 students

You will need:

Two fly swatters (One for each team)

Flashcards or a whiteboard to write words on.

WHAT DOES IT TEACH?

Waiting for your turn

Concentration

Listening comprehension

Vocabulary and pronunciation

IDEAS FOR DIFFERENTIATION

STEP 1 The teacher says the word in English and the students look for the picture of the word on the board.

STEP 2 Teacher says the word in their own language that the pupils find on the board and say in English.

PSSST!

Ask a student to be the one who says the words

Ask students to draw up a word list of words from a homework assignment, for example.

No swatting each other!



Dr. Reissureino
Lidia Hanna Szulc

THE FLY SWATTER CONTINUES...

BAT	FEATHER	DOORNAIL	KITE	NAILS
BELL	DAISY	PANCAKE	FOX	GRAVE
BEE	LORD	PICTURE	CUCUMBER	FIDDLE
HATTER	HILLS	GOLD	CLOCKWORK	BRASS

TOADSTOOL



BASICS

Fun to play in smaller groups with 6-8 students so every one can have time to pick mushroom.

You will need 10-15 picture cards with words.

WHAT DOES IT TEACH?

Waiting your turn

Team skills

Vocabulary and pronunciation

Drilling the words

IDEAS FOR DIFFERENTIATION

STEP 1 Picture cards with the word in English.

STEP 2 Picture cards with a word in your own language and you have to say it in English.

STEP 3 Irregular verbs with picture and all the three forms.

PSSST!

This is a very effective way to learn pronunciation when you say the word and kids repeat it.



CORNER



BASICS

You can play this with the whole class!

You will need:

Picture cards with words.

A volunteer.

WHAT DOES IT TEACH?

Emotion management (trust me)

Vocabulary and pronunciation

Question phrases

IDEAS FOR DIFFERENTIATION

STEP 1 The person in front says just the word.

STEP 2 The person in front asks a question about the words. For example, food words: Do you like cheese?

PSSST!

If possible, try to teach the kids to use whole sentences from the beginning.

Kids think that this is the best game ever!



Are you...



excited



surprised



angry



sleepy

THANK YOU



REMEMBER

- STEP 1** Less is more! Lessons don't have to be circus shows! Try having only a few games where to start from. Then take a new one to the mix every now and then.
- STEP 2** You can use the same games all over again in different ways and modify them for your own need. You can also use them in your mother tongue!
- STEP 3** Moving around while studying is really good for your brains and learning!
- STEP 4** Playing games is a natural way for kids to learn and work. Even though it might be hard for adults, it's still worth it!

Reissureino
Dada Hanna Sari



Reissureino

Paula Hanna Sata

