

Jolly Phonics



Jolly phonics has been playing a major role in teaching our students the basics of reading and writing. It is a method to target student's ability to link music, with learning the letter sounds. There are also actions for each sound to accompany the songs. It greatly facilitates the blending skills to help the children read and write.

From my experience over the last six years using Jolly Phonics, I believe it excels over any program I have used before. Teachers arrive at their learning objectives whilst the students have fun learning how to read and write.

Thank you Jolly Phonics for this amazing program from all the teachers at Ishraq School, Aley, Lebanon

Miss Samar Alameh

Pre-Kindergarten Teacher

I've been using Jolly Phonics for the past six years, and it's been a great experience for me and my students. It has helped me reach out for the kids who struggle in reading. Students are now able to blend and decode words about one year earlier than they did before using traditional programs, and their spelling is almost always readable. They enjoy reading "Jolly Readers" every day, and they're always enthusiastic about writing stories. I can assure you that with Jolly Phonics, you will never reach the end of the school year having a child in your class still struggling with reading or writing.

This year, as a Grade One English teacher, I can truly see the benefits of how the Jolly Grammar books continue in their fun teaching journey for the children. For example, using the Jolly Grammar pupil book 1, the 'parts of speech' are introduced in a child-friendly way with their color coded sections and actions, which make it easier for the children to identify them. The children can follow punctuation rules and their sentences are more legible.

I am so thankful for Jolly Phonics; it literally makes wonders and I highly recommend it!

Miss Hala Al Jurdi

Kindergarten Teacher and Grade One Teacher



Figure 1 Kg3 student reading a Jolly Reader story fluently.

Implementing Jolly Phonics in our school teaching system has been like a quantum leap; it gives emphasis to the concept of 'learning is fun' through its unique approach to teaching the English language.

This Jolly Phonics program infuses students with enthusiasm and eagerness, and that's what makes Jolly Phonics stand out from the other teaching methods; it involves the student in the learning process, rather than making learning a language sound boring and obligatory. Our students learn through fun experiences that speak to their learning abilities at different ages. With the sounds being linked to stories, songs and actions, our students are able to remember and learn the sounds faster and easier along with activities reinforcing their learning skills.

I have been lucky enough to teach all kindergarten levels. Among many other important factors. I have noticed the importance and effectiveness of introducing letters by their sounds first and not by their names and this program has helped build a fundamental start for our students.

Creative writing using Jolly Phonics, is an exciting way for the children to express themselves using their imaginations and broadens their thought process. It has helped our students develop a wide range of skills while building their confidence.

Miss Riham Fakhr
Kindergarten Teacher

Being a KG2 teacher for eight years, I started using jolly phonics six years ago. I found it a great investment for ensuring the best foundation for reading skills, spelling, and writing phonetically. The songs are fun and my students enjoyed singing them daily which helped memorize them easier. After implementing the use of the Jolly Phonics Pupil Book 1 during the second semester, the students were able to solve the pages on their own with limited help, which helps improve their confidence in their own work. Last year, I had the privilege to teach KG1 students for the first time. Fortunately for us this was the first year Jolly Phonics released their Jolly English books and we were very lucky to enjoy this wonderful program. It is a lovely edition and very richly-built. I highly recommend using Jolly Phonics!

Mrs Haneen Abou Ali
Kindergarten Teacher

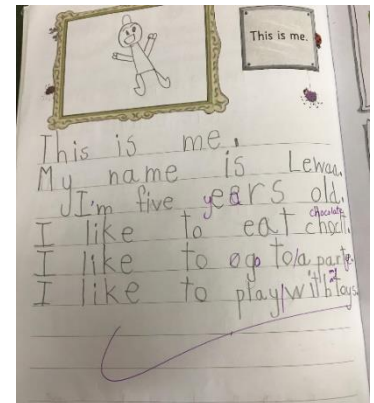


Figure 2 Kg3 Student's creative writing in Jolly Phonics Pupil Book 2.

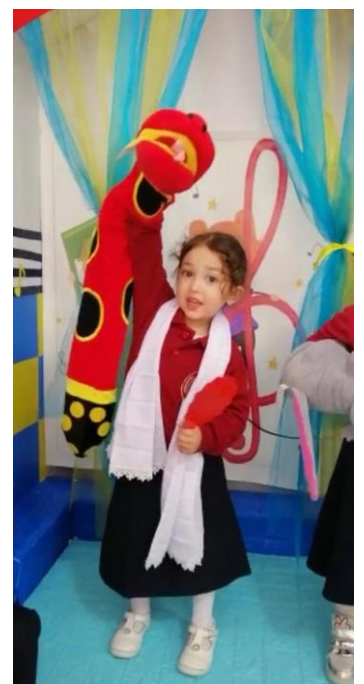


Figure 3 KG1 student roleplaying during a Jolly English session

When it comes to kindergarten classes, one of the most important skills the kids can acquire is recognizing and differentiating between the sounds. And since I started using the Jolly phonics program, I was directly able to see its impact in the learning process. Learning sounds changed from being a hard task to becoming a joyful process that the kids truly enjoy. The kids were always eager to know what sound they were going to take next. The jolly phonics program worked magic on all students no matter the differences between their academic levels.

Jolly Phonics facilitates reading and writing for the kids since it focuses on the sound that the letter makes instead of the letter's name. The jolly phonics pupil books serve the objectives intended for learning the language, where the first aim focuses on the 42 sounds and blending, the second and the third aim focuses on grammar and creative writing. The latter is a joyful ground for the kids, where they can, from a very young age, use writing to express their ideas without the limitations of their spelling capacity.



Figure 4 KG2 students blending words

From the first year the jolly phonics program was implemented in my classroom, I was very pleased with the level of my students and this program worked well with all of them. Of course some might need more practice than others but at the end of the day it is one of the most effective learning methods a child can get at this time!

Miss Sarah Abou Zore
Kindergarten Teacher

Using Jolly Phonics is one of the best experiences in my teaching career. Simply it made the impossible possible!

Teaching English, as a second language, to preschoolers and having them read and write is quite a challenge to most teachers. The Jolly Phonics program changed that. Our students are presented to the world of reading in an enjoyable and easy way. Learning the sound of the letters instead of naming the alphabet letters gives amazing results.

The use of funny actions, songs and stories made the kids feel comfortable to recognize and remember the sounds better. Which in return prepares them to blend sounds into words easily in an early stage of learning, especially with the addition of learning the digraphs as sounds too. By the end of the year our children were able to read and write simple sentences, and were free to express their thoughts in their own words.

The Jolly Phonics Classroom kit includes convenient and adequate resources for the teachers to use, like the big books, the jolly readers, the tricky words flower cards, the flashcards, and most importantly the character puppets of Inky, Snake and Bee, and many more.

We've been using Jolly Phonics for over 6 years, and every year we are believing in the power of teaching in the right way.

Miss Maysoun Al Halabi
KG2 Kindergarten Teacher



Figure 5 Jolly Phonics Cake made by Miss Maysoun Al Halabi to celebrate learning all the Jolly sounds.



Kindergarteners are, in general, visual and auditory learners. They learn best by listening, mainly to songs, and by visual aids such as colorful pictures and interactive videos. In addition, the new discoveries in education emphasize play-based learning; children learn by playing different types of games.

All the above aspects of our students' learning are found in the "Jolly English" books. These books contain colorful illustrations that we use to tell a story about the characters displayed. Our students would have a chance to point to the different pictures and talk about them. This would emphasize the listening and speaking skills for the children. The book is provided with stickers and flashcards. The flashcards contain real images so that the students can relate to real life.

The book provides an opportunity for our students to learn forty-two main sounds and digraphs. At the end of each unit, there's a part to review the sounds. Children observe the words related to the sound and learn a tongue twister about it. This is helpful since it would review, in addition to the sound, the vocabulary terms used.

The use of the provided puppets, songs, chants, and stories makes the learning process very attractive for the kids and motivates them to play together. This also encourages their social skills such as enhancing self-confidence, and team work, whilst following instructions, and expressing themselves clearly.

At the end of each lesson, kids can also use the practice book to practice what they have learned in the pupil book. These types of exercises depend mainly on visuals such as tracing, matching, and coloring.

Jolly Phonics and Jolly English boost the level of the English language learners and provide them with basic literacy skills that would help them use the language easily later on.

Miss Malak Abo Reslan,
Kindergarten Teacher (KG1)

Jolly English is an integrated and distinctive course for kindergarten kids. It is a perceptive learning path for kids to learn sounds and new vocabularies in an interactive way.

It is my second year using this program, I have noticed the effective results with our students. Starting with a welcome unit and followed with eight comprehensive units in each pupil book. The units cover new ideas, vocabularies, concepts, numbers, colors, and action verbs.

In each unit, four lessons are provided with enough material that can be adapted for different uses. We start the unit with a chant and new vocabularies that help us focus on the sounds. Our students were able to role play using the dialogue together with the amusing story that takes all of their attention. In addition, the colorful illustrated flashcards show each word in its real form, these help the children relate the word to real life subjects. At the end of each unit, there are songs and tongue twisters which our students find very amusing to try and rhyme.

I am so glad that we are using Jolly English, it allows our students to be able to recognize the sounds, say the phrases, act out the stories, role-play and identify a wide range of vocabularies from different themes. Even this year in our online sessions Jolly English has proven its effectiveness with our students.

Mrs. Nour Fakh
KG1 KindergartenTeacher



From our experience, Jolly Phonics provides the best foundation for all children to learn reading and writing. It is a comprehensive program with a multi-sensory approach to learning. This program is fun and engaging, it includes different activities and multiple resources to help with different individual learning styles. Jolly phonics has already proven its outstanding success worldwide and over the past six years, our teachers have found it just as successful and are proud to be using such a unique program.

I am very grateful to Jolly Phonics for the opportunity to be able to implement this program at our school in Lebanon. Jolly phonics contributed substantially to the quality of teaching and learning at our school, this was further enhanced with the addition of the interactive whiteboard software, which complemented the online learning sessions.



Mrs Najwa Noueihed
English Coordinator
Kindergarten Department