



## ASK THE EXPERT

# Achieve success with EAL students

Tessa Lochowski discusses how teachers can make the English language accessible to young learners

### What's special about young learners?

Young learners have a great capacity for learning a new language and are a joy to teach. But teaching such young children can bring its own challenges. As teachers we need to understand that these children are naturally inquisitive and full of energy. Lessons should be practical, playful and full of purposeful activities that keep children engaged in their learning.

### How does this cause difficulty in the classroom?

Many Early Years and KS1 children may speak little to no English at all, and won't yet have learned to read in their own language. They may speak other languages at home, which can mean that using and applying the reading skills they have learned in school can be difficult.

### How has Jolly English been developed to combat these challenges?

Jolly English has been carefully developed and sequenced for young learners who have little or no English. New language is introduced through a series of topic-based units and is packed full of age-appropriate activities. Teachers are supported with detailed lesson plans that show the learning objectives of each lesson.

### What outcomes do we want for these young learners?

Developing their speaking and listening skills as well as their fine motor skills lays the foundation for learning to write at a later stage. Children should also be developing their phonemic awareness and tuning in to letter



#### EXPERT PROFILE

**Name:**  
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**Job title:** Teaching Consultant

**Area of expertise:**  
English Language Teaching

**Best part of my job:** Creating materials that help children to learn and grow.

sounds that pave the way for reading. Embedding these essential skills in young learners will provide them with their first building blocks in acquiring the English language.

### How are teachers able to achieve success with their EAL students?

Jolly English gives teachers all the tools they need to deliver engaging lessons. It provides plenty of opportunities to revise, consolidate and extend children's knowledge. Children discover new words and phrases using pictures, songs, games, chants and stories, with the help of Inky Mouse and her friends Bee and Snake. These characters will help motivate children and spark their imagination.

### Can Jolly English be used in different teaching contexts?

Yes, Jolly English has been created so that it can be used flexibly to suit different classroom scenarios. It can be used before starting Jolly Phonics or alongside Jolly Phonics.

## ASK ME ABOUT

**MULTI-SENSORY ACTIVITIES** - Every lesson uses songs, games, chants and stories that bring the course to life and develop children's English language.

**TOPICS** - New language is introduced through a series of topic-based units, including 'At the Beach', 'Weather' and 'Fun at the Fair'.

**EXTENSION ACTIVITIES** - Detailed lesson plans provide additional guidance and support for teachers for the main lesson and extension activities.

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