



ENGLISCH

Entwicklungsbereich	Lese-Rechtschreib-Störung (LRS)
Titel/Thema	Gesamtmaterial
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Internal differentiation and inclusive learning in the EFL classroom

Title of the teaching unit: Boa's Bad Birthday

Area of support: Language acquisition deficits: dyslexia and pronunciation

Preliminary considerations: The focus of this teaching unit is to support students who have problems related to language acquisition such as dyslexia or defects in pronunciation. Research findings show that a multisensory teaching approach can significantly improve phonological awareness, decoding skills and reading comprehension of dyslexic students (Joshi et al, 2002). The main goal of this teaching unit is to help students understand vocabulary and grammar as well as to improve their reading skills through repetition of essentially the same content through varying teaching methods, such as reader's theater, puzzle games and worksheets. Students with dyslexia often suffer from short-term verbal memory deficits, so a highly structured teaching style and repetition is intended to help these students retain their knowledge and skills and to provide them with a feeling of learning progress and success (Oakland et al, 1998). In the sense of inclusive and differentiated instruction this lesson is designed for the mainstream EFL classroom.

Age group: Grade 6, 11-12 years old

Story: Jeanne Willis and Tony Ross: Boa's Bad Birthday

It was Boa's birthday and his friends brought him interesting presents. However, there appear to be mixed feelings, was Boa happy or sad? And why? The story gradually reveals whether this year was the best or worst birthday for Boa.

Reference:

Ross, R., Willis, J. (2014). Boa's Bad Birthday. Andersen Press Ltd.

Learning objectives:

- Learning new adjectives and using them in the right context, e.g., disappointed, enormous, kind, mad, neat, rude, suitable, useful, wonderful
- Understanding Simple Past Tense and using the regular and irregular past forms correctly, e.g. hoped, invited, looked, arrived, wanted, insisted, kicked, rained, sprouted, suited, played, waited, opened, thanked, was, were, would, had, said, kept, thought, grew.
- Developing the ability to identify and produce the pronunciation of the '-ed' ending of regular verbs in the simple past tense: /d/, /t/, /ɪd/ correctly.

Lesson plan

Lesson	Content	Media
1	<p>Introduction of the story: Teacher brings an empty birthday present/box to gain the attention of the students and informs them about the theme of the picture book that will be read today.</p> <p>Preparation before reading the story: Teacher shows the cover of the book and asks students to guess what birthday presents the main character (Boa) receives on his birthday. Students answer the question voluntarily.</p> <p>Introduction of adjectives: Teacher introduces ten adjectives from the storybook to students. S/he uses adjective cards to illustrate the meanings. Spelling and visualization of the adjectives will aid students' comprehension of the story.</p> <p>1st reading of the story: Teacher presents the story by using the picture book (Big Book edition). If necessary (e.g. in case of very large classes and limited visibility), s/he also shows some pictures from the book on PPT to help students visualize the story.</p> <p>Post-reading activities: teacher asks students the following questions to revise the story in the plenum: 1) Who was the main character? 2) Who gave Boa presents? 3) What presents did Boa receive? 4) What was the best present for Boa, and why?</p> <p>Ball toss game: Teacher throws/passes a ball to the student whom s/he wants to answer and the student passes the ball to their peers until all questions are answered.</p> <p>Writing story: Teacher asks students to write their own story about their best birthday present and explain why they love it. This activity allows students to reflect on their personal experience, i.e. the best birthday present ever received. Teacher is aware that the writing task is more challenging for dyslexic students, therefore, extra time and simplified instructions may be given.</p> <p>Milling around: Students are asked to walk around the room to find a partner in order to exchange their stories. Teacher monitors students' activity closely, provides feedback and signals students when it is time to change their partner, to stop the game and to go back to their seats.</p>	<p>An empty wrapped box</p> <p>Cover of the book</p> <p>Adjective cards</p> <p>Picture book/Power Point slides</p> <p>A small ball</p> <p>Best birthday present worksheet</p>
2	<p>Warm-up: Revision of the adjectives. Each student is given the adjective puzzle worksheet which requires them to find the learned adjectives. This activity aims to facilitate word recognition and to help dyslexic students with their spelling skills. During the activity, teacher notes that dyslexic students may require more time to complete the task. Teacher provides solution after the completion of the task.</p> <p>2nd reading – Reader's Theater: Students are divided into groups and are given a part of the story to practice. Teacher asks students to read their script orally for practice. Teacher assists each group to make sure they pronounce the words accurately and asserts expression where it deems appropriate. After the practice, teacher and students perform together by having each group of students read their assigned part in the plenum. This activity aims to enhance students' reading fluency and confidence. It also promotes collaboration between non-dyslexic and dyslexic students.</p>	<p>Adjective puzzle worksheet</p> <p>Script</p>

Lesson	Content	Media
	<p>Introduction to past tense: Students work in groups again and are asked to find both regular and irregular verb forms that appear in their script. Teacher asks each group what they have found, then sticks the verb on the board. Teacher continues to explain the concept of Simple Past tense and provides more examples of regular and irregular verbs.</p> <p>Past tense verbs practice: Students are given a worksheet to complete Boa's story by filling in the blanks with correct verb forms. The teacher reveals the answers at the end of the class in the plenum.</p>	<p>Verb cards derived from the storybook</p> <p>Boa's story Verb 2 worksheet</p>
3	<p>Revision of regular and irregular verbs: Magic bag activity. Teacher presents a magic bag that is filled with verbs in the infinitive form. S/he goes to each student and asks the student to pick one slip of paper. Each student is required to spell out the equivalent verb in the past tense (e.g. look – looked). The rest of the students are asked to listen, confirm and help their peer when in need.</p> <p>Introduction to pronunciation of verbs with -ed ending: Teacher puts three boxes labeled with /d/, /t/, and /id/ in front of the classroom. Teacher shows verb cards in the past form (e.g. looked) and asks students how the verb is pronounced. Students predict the answer. Teacher confirms students' answers and corrects when they are wrong. Teacher pronounces the -ed of the verb and students are asked to repeat. The verb cards are then placed in the box of their corresponding sound (e.g. looked in the /t/ box). Teacher and students conclude the rules of -ed pronunciation together. This activity enables students to pronounce verbs with -ed suffix correctly. The visual aid i.e., verb cards are color coded to differentiate the root of the word and the suffix better in order to aid students with dyslexia.</p> <p>Practice of pronunciation of verbs ending with -ed: Think-pair-share. Students are divided into pairs. Each pair is asked to think of three different regular verbs that represent each sound /d/, /t/, and /id/. Teacher asks each pair to present their verbs in the plenary. Students are expected to pronounce the words appropriately with the assistance from the teacher.</p>	<p>A bag</p> <p>Small pieces of paper with verbs in the infinitive form</p> <p>Three boxes labeled with /d/, /t/, and /id/</p> <p>Verb with -ed ending cards</p>

References:

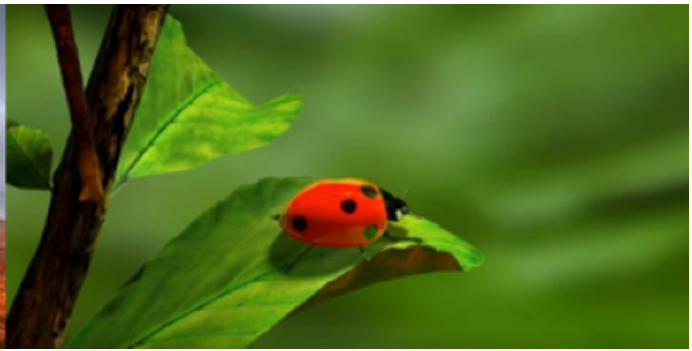
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- Oakland, T., Black, J. L., Stanford, G., Nussbaum, N. and Balise, R. R. (1998). 'An Evaluation of the Dyslexia Training Program: A Multisensory Method for Promoting Reading in Students with Reading Disabilities', *Journal of Learning Disabilities*, 31(2) 140–147.

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Material: Adjective cards



enormous



small



wonderful



bad



neat



messy



useful



useless



kind



mean



suitable



unfit



disappointed



cheerful



mad



pleased



rude

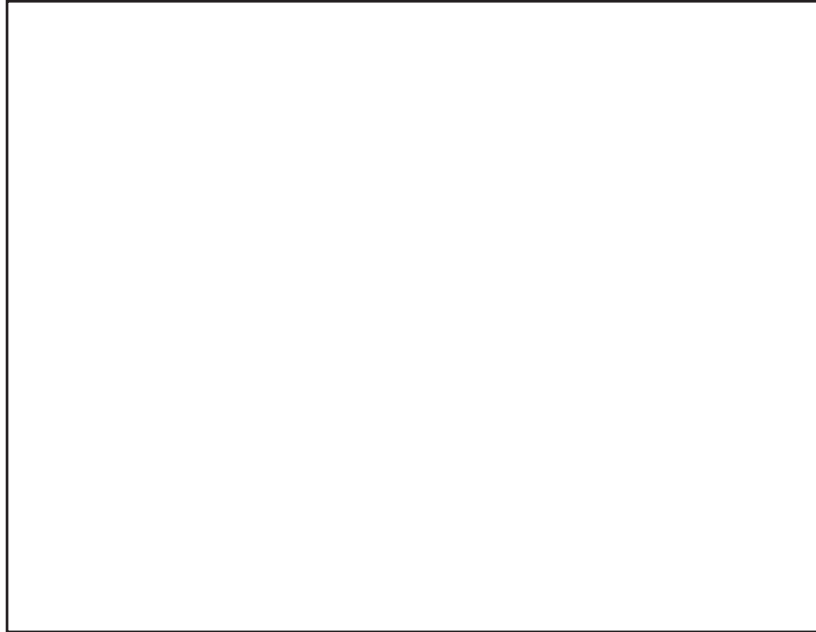


polite

Material: My best birthday present worksheet

My best birthday present

1) What was your best birthday present? Draw a picture in the box below.



2) Who gave it to you? (e.g. mother, father, aunt, etc.)

3) When did you receive it? (e.g. last year, in 2015, when I was 8 years old, etc.)

4) Why did you like it so much? (e.g. because I love reading books, because I like playing with it, because it is useful, etc.)

Worksheet: Adjective Puzzle

BOA's Birthday Adjective Puzzle



Instruction: Find the words in the puzzle (left to right, or top do bottom):

USEFUL	ENORMOUS	MAD	NEAT
FUN	RUBBISH	PERFECT	SUITABLE
KIND	LOVELY	INTERESTING	WONDERFUL
RUDE	DISAPPOINTED		

BOA's Birthday Adjective Puzzle (Solution)



Material: Script

BOA's BAD BIRTHDAY Script

Teacher	It was Boa's birthday. It was going to be the best one ever. Or so he hoped. He invited his friends round. They would all bring him wonderful presents. Or would they?
Narrator 1	Orang-utan's present was enormous. It was a piano. Boa couldn't play it. He had no fingers. "It's the thought that counts," said his mother.
Narrator 2	Monkey's parcel looked very interesting... "You'll love it!" said Monkey. But Boa didn't. It was a pair of sunglasses! He had no ears or nose. Boa was deeply disappointed.
Narrator 3	Jaguar arrived with a neat package. "I thought they'd be useful," said Jaguar. But they weren't. They were mittens! "Do you like the colour?" asked Jaguar. "It's my favourite," said Boa.
Narrator 4	But what he really wanted to say was, "Why buy me mittens? Are you mad? I have no hands?" But that would have been rude.
Teacher	It was kind of his friends to get him anything. Perhaps Sloth's gift would be more suitable. But it wasn't. It was a hairbrush! "It's a very good one," Insisted Sloth. But it was no good for Boa. He had no hair!
Narrator 5	"Open my parcel," said Ant Eater. It was a football! It was no fun at all! Boa couldn't kick it. He had no feet!
Teacher	It was Boa's worst birthday ever. All his gifts were rubbish. And just when he thought things couldn't get any worse, Dung beetle arrived with a dung ball.
Narrator 6	In the dung ball, there was a seed. And when it rained, it sprouted. And it grew a beautiful tree!
Teacher	It was the perfect present for a boa. It was the right size, the right shape. and it suited Boa down to the ground. It was just what he had always wanted.
Narrator 7	So, if you ever get a present that stinks, say thank you. Because it might turn out to be the best present ever!

<i>was</i>	<i>hoped</i>
<i>would</i>	<i>invited</i>
<i>thought</i>	<i>could</i>
<i>had</i>	<i>said</i>
<i>looked</i>	<i>kept</i>
<i>arrived</i>	<i>were</i>
<i>asked</i>	<i>wanted</i>
<i>would</i>	<i>insisted</i>
<i>rained</i>	<i>sprouted</i>
<i>grew</i>	<i>suited</i>

Material: Simple Past Tense worksheet

Instruction: Fill the blanks with the correct form of verbs to complete the sentence.

- 1) It w _ _ (be) Boa's birthday.
- 2) He i _ _ _ _ _ (invite) some friends to his birthday.
- 3) Jaguar a _ _ _ _ _ (arrive) with a neat package.
- 4) Boa h _ _ _ _ (hope) Jaguar's package would be perfect for him.
- 5) The mittens w _ _ _ (be) not useful because Boa had no hands.
- 6) Boa o _ _ _ _ _ (open) Anteater's parcel. He was disappointed.
- 7) Orang-utan's present w _ _ (be) enormous.
- 8) Boa t _ _ _ _ _ (thank) his friends for the presents.
- 9) "Dung beetle's here!" s _ _ _ (say) his mother.
- 10) Dung ball s _ _ _ _ _ (suit) Boa down to the ground.

Key

1) was	2) invited	3) arrived	4) hoped	5) were
6) opened	7) was	8) thanked	9) said	10) suited

Material: Verbs to be put in the magic bag

(the number of verbs used varies depending on the number of students in the classroom)

hope	invite	look	arrive	want	insist
kick	rain	sprout	suite	play	wait
open	thank	be	will	have	say
keep	get	think	grow	read	study

Material: Regular verb cards

<i>climbed</i>	<i>jumped</i>
<i>listened</i>	<i>cooked</i>
<i>called</i>	<i>finished</i>
<i>cried</i>	<i>laughed</i>

*open***ed**

*mix***ed**

*love***d**

*stop***ped**

*visit***ed**

*chat***ted**

*paint***ed**

*end***ed**