Vic Tesol
EAL Framework 101 Series
Workshop 3: Teaching a unit

Good practice in TESOL Teaching

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- Padlet: Adults learning EAL

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About the EAL Framework

- It's a framework that allows for flexibility of contextualised learning content and resources.

- It's designed for educators to source any relevant information, use a variety of materials and include teaching ideas that relate to real life, are current and are authentic.

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What we know about adult learning

- Andragogy is 'the method and practice of teaching adult learners' *Dictionary.com*

- Learning is a shared experience for both teachers and learners

- We tap into the knowledge and experience that's in the classroom

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What's important for adult learners

- Set goals and connect these to something that they want to achieve in their lives

- Put learning into context – frame the 'what' and the 'why'

- Foster self-direction and independence in managing learning

- Relate learning to their own life experiences

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What's important for teachers

- Make learning practical and relatable to real life

- Scaffolding – explain, model, practise in different contexts, recycle

- Use communicative methodologies
  - learning language by communicating
  - engaging students in authentic and real world activities and situations

- Create a safe environment to try new things, to practice and to learn from each other

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It's all in the planning

- Plan – begin with the end in mind

- The curriculum is your guide (it's all in there – use the range statement)

- Be flexible, adapt and go with the flow - this is where learning can flourish
  - current events, news items, class issues
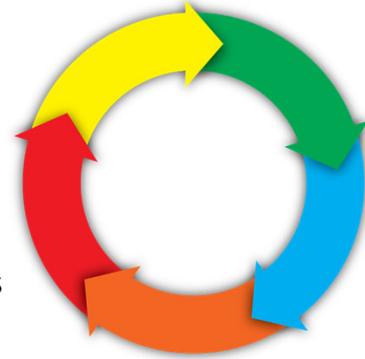
- Come back the outcomes

Image: pixabay.com/illustrations/arrows-graph-business-chart-3368751/

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Nuts and bolts of classroom learning

- Customise for the needs of the class – do a needs analysis
- Use of meta language – e.g. the language of the curriculum
- Learner led
- Use of realia
- Variety of activities
- Incorporate routines *and* change things up (replicating real life)
- Experiment with new ideas, try new things
- Be resourceful – your time is limited – work with others to create, share, collect and adapt existing resources
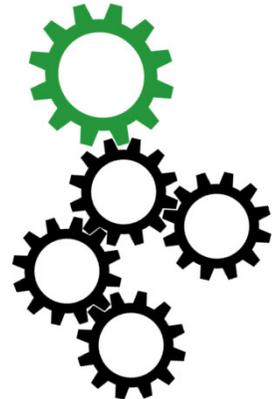
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Reflective practice

'We do not learn from experience, we learn from reflecting on experience'. John Dewey

• Making reflection a regular part of our practice – individually, with others, informally, formally

• Sharing good practice with colleagues

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Action Research

Action research identifies something we may want to trial or change. It can bring about new initiatives and can make teaching or education programs more effective.

• Plan
• Trial
• Analyse
• Review, reflect, recommend

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Questions and comments

Thank you!!

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