

## TEACHING YOUNG LEARNERS Course Content

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### **Orientation Unit**

This unit will introduce you to the course structure, platform and dates. You will also find out what you can expect from us and what we expect from you.

### **Unit 1: Introductions**

In this unit you will learn to use the learning platform, introduce yourselves and share some of your views on teaching young learners and your goals and expectations for the course.

### **Unit 2: It's child's play**

In this unit you will explore a variety of communicative games for language development. We will discuss ways of adapting them for different age groups and levels of proficiency. You will use the sample games to create your own game for a class of your choice.

### **Unit 3: We are all ears**

In this unit we will discuss the principles of listening skills and the importance of incorporating varied listening activities in the regular classroom. We will analyse different listening activities to be used in young learner classrooms with no access to technology resources (no-tech), classrooms with CD players (low-tech) and classrooms with projectors or interactive whiteboards and Internet access (high-tech). Finally, we will discuss ways to adapt these activities for different age groups and levels of proficiency.

### **Unit 4: Once upon a time**

This unit will focus on the use of story-telling, children's literature, environmental print and other authentic printed materials. We will examine different kinds of books for children and their potential for practising oral skills for L2 learners. We will look into ways to exploit great books for children and the text that appears in everyday life to design activities for young language learners. Additionally, we will examine techniques to make books and signs that can become rich resources for speaking, reading and writing.

### **Unit 5: Lights, camera, action!**

In this unit we will focus on songs, nursery rhymes, art, crafts, cartoons, creative movement and drama activities to immerse young learners in language. We will explore activities that can serve both as good language models and opportunities for young learners to use language in interaction with other children and adults.

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## **Unit 6: Beyond the classroom**

In this unit we will take a look at the potential of less traditional learning settings such as school trips, nature walks or virtual classrooms.

## **Unit 7: Click on CLIL**

This unit will present an introduction to the principles of Content and Language Integrated Learning and some sample activities for different age groups and proficiency levels in different subjects.

## **Unit 8: Course Review and Assignment Preview**

In this final unit we will review the whole course and look at what you need to do for your assignment. Finally, we'll have a virtual goodbye party!

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### **Assignment**

A choice of two assignments:

1. Design a short thematic unit that can be taught in 60 to 90 minutes to a specific group of young learners. It should contain 4 to 6 activities based on new ideas you have learnt in this course or inspired by the activities in this course.
2. Plan a teacher training session of 60 to 90 minutes for colleagues based on something you have learnt or become more aware of by doing this course. If possible, do the session with your colleagues.