

Supporting Newly Arrived Beginners in English

- Some useful resources

- The Usborne First Thousand Words in English by Heather Amery & Stephen Cartwright
 - Useful for vocabulary development
 - Choose a picture linked to a theme you are studying in Racing to English or in class. Talk about the picture. Ask the pupils to find the little pictures in the big picture. Can you see the ...?
 - Ask the pupil some simple questions about the picture. The type of question will depend on the pupil's stage of language acquisition. E.g. What is this boy doing? Where is the brown dog? Model answers in complete sentences and prompt the pupil to respond in a sentence. E.g. What is this boy doing? The boy is kicking a ball. Or He is kicking a ball.
- EAL Language Builder Books 1 & 2 – PMP Publications, 17 Ormiston Drive, Belfast BT4 3JS
<http://www.vtci.co.uk/sources/clients/pmp/orderform.pdf>
 - Useful check up sheets to use at the end of a unit of Racing to English / Beginner English topic to see how much the pupil has remembered and understood.
 - Don't just give this book to the pupil and get them to work through it though – use sparingly as a teaching or assessment tool alongside the Racing to English programme.
- Writing Sentences – Learning Materials Ltd, Wolverhampton
<http://learningmaterials.co.uk/home/learning-materials-for-special-educational-needs.html>

This company produces books for children with special educational needs. Although it is important NOT to categorise EAL pupils as SEN (unless they have a special educational need in addition to EAL), some of these materials can be useful for Beginners in English if used in the right way.

 - Provides simple sentence starters and writing frames to help pupils write basic sentences.
 - Always do some oral practice before asking the pupil to complete the sentences. Model the sentence structures and allow the pupil to practise saying some sentences before they write.
- Reading For Meaning / More Reading For Meaning – Learning Materials Ltd, Wolverhampton
 - Has some useful sequencing activities and basic reading comprehension activities
 - Choose activities which relate to a topic already being studied. Check understanding of vocabulary before attempting the activity.

- Logical Sequencing Books by Peter Rigg – Learning Materials Ltd, Wolverhampton
 - Sentences are cut up and the pupil has to arrange them in such a way that they make sense as a simple narrative. To do this they need to grasp the meaning in the sentences rather than simply decoding the words.
 - Talk about the picture first, checking understanding of the key vocabulary.

- Listening Skills – Early Years or Key Stage One – Available from LDA – www.ldalearning.com
 - Good for developing vocabulary and listening skills
 - The pupil has to listen carefully to the instructions in order to complete the given picture
 - Instructions can be very simple one-step instructions for those at the early stages of language acquisition (e.g. Colour the ball yellow.) or more complex instructions for those at the later stages (e.g. Harry is third in the queue. He has a red umbrella, a green coat and black boots.)
 - Link with topics / themes being studied to ensure that the vocabulary is relevant.

- LDA picture cards
<http://www.ldalearning.com/default.aspx>
 - Very useful photo cards to help teach new vocabulary and sentence structures
 - Cards available include: parts of the body, prepositions, opposites, actions, verb tenses, story sequencing