

Using local resources: Upper Primary English

English (with Hindi)

Commentary:

In this upper primary class, a teacher uses natural resources creatively to enhance her lesson. Here she is teaching English by using a topic from science. Using locally available materials connects students' lives to the curriculum.

Teacher: We will learn, now, we will learn, the parts of? Plants. अब हम क्या करेंगे? Group में work करेंगे। And, we will go outside, and pick some object - जो कि, पौधो से - trees से संबंधित हों - like leaves, roots, flowers. Pick the object.

I will give you ten minutes for this activity.

Commentary:

The students have been asked to gather parts of plants from outside. In groups, they use these resources to practise their vocabulary and spelling.

Bringing in resources from outside can provide objects for discussion and for interesting classroom displays that can be referred to while teaching.

Teacher: Everybody know their group? सब जानते हैं न - अपने अपने group?

Students: Yes, ma'am.

Teacher: Every group make a leader.

Students: Yes, ma'am.

Teacher: Every group discuss the parts of plant. And group leader, write it on your notebook. Everybody see the parts of plant?

Students: Yes, ma'am.

Teacher: अब आप लोग, discuss करेंगे। है न?

Student 1: Root...

Students: Root, stem...

Student 1: Stem, branches...

Students: Branches...

Student 1: And leaves.

Student 2: Flowers.

Students: Branches, roots, stem...

Student 3: Stem, leaves, flowers.

Commentary:

After the groupwork, the teacher conducts a feedback session.

Teacher: What is this?

Student 3: Leaves.

Student 4: Leaves.

Teacher: A leaf. A leaf!

Students: Leave.

Teacher: एक होती है leaf.

Students: Leave.

Teacher: Leaf!

Students: Leave.

Teacher: Leaf. और ये? Leaves.

Students: Leaves.

Teacher: है ना? What is the spelling of leaves?

Student 3: L-E-V-E-S.

Teacher: Leves? सही है ये?

Students: No, ma'am.

Teacher: Come, and correct it, on the board.

Is it right?

Students: Yes, ma'am.

Teacher: Right?

Students: Yes, ma'am.

Teacher: सही है ये?

Students: Yes, ma'am.

Teacher: Leaves? Leaves?

Student 2: No, ma'am.

Teacher: Yasmin, you know the spelling of leaves? हाँ? Do you know? नहीं? OK...

Commentary:

Teachers can use resources and ideas from many different subject areas to help their students practise English.

How could you do this in your English lessons?