

MY TOP 5 DIGITAL RESOURCES

By: Meritxell Martínez

1. Koalertext

Koalertext.com



Justification:

Koalertext is a website with a lot of educational resources like videos, flashcards, reading comprehensions, audios, exercises... Everything ordered by topics and levels. Although I would not base my teaching lessons on them, as I think it would be decontextualized and not meaningful enough for children, there are some topics that are very specific (like "New York", "J.K. Rowling", "The Loch Ness", "Penguins", "Saint George" (as the Patron of Catalonia)) which could offer extra activities for projects. You can have access to some resources for free, but if you pay (60€/year) you can have access to all of them.

<http://koalertext.com/public/>

2. Super Simple Songs

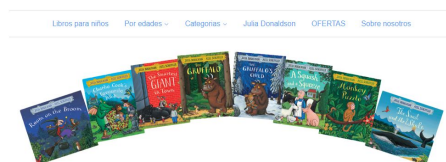


Justification:

Super Simple Songs is a great youtube channel with lots of videos with simple songs in English. It is specially aimed at young learners. It is visually very attractive and the vocabulary is easy to understand. They are repetitive songs, but not tiring. Moreover most of them interact with the audience so children feel very engaged to it. There are also some nursery songs and rhymes.

<https://www.youtube.com/user/SuperSimpleSongs>

3. Kids books in English



Justification:

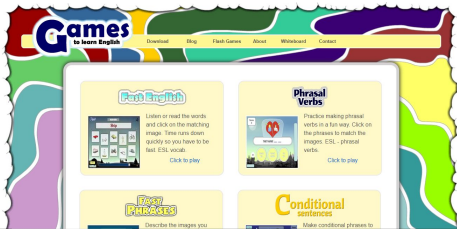
Kids books in English is a website with books in English for non-native speakers. It was created by Spanish parents that had the same problem: they found a lot of books that were short but they were for native speakers, because they contained colloquial expressions and difficult sentences. In this website you can find a selection of books that are more appropriate for non-native speakers. They are ordered by levels and categories, and you can buy them directly from the website.

<https://kidsbooksinenglish.com/>

4. Games to learn English

Justification:

Games to learn English is a website with lots of educational games to practice different aspects about English language. Vocabulary, sentence order, making sentences & questions, English definitions... there is a great amount of



content worked with these fun activities. You can select the speed you prefer when setting the time to do the activities. Furthermore, you can click on the "Review" button before starting, so you can have a look on the content you will be asked.

A strong point of it is that you can do the activities online or download them as WinRAR files.

<https://www.gamestolearnenglish.com/>

5. Scratch



Justification:

Scratch is not a resource to strictly work English language. In fact, it is a resource to create an avatar and practice programming with computers. It is challenging at the beginning, but when children feel confident with it, they love it so much.

I would change the language setting to English and then I would use it with the oldest students of Primary Education. I think it is a resource that takes a lot of time, but can be so fun and meaningful. Moreover, the English sentences that they have to use are predetermined and simple. This would be a perfect resource to use in a school where they teach ICT in CLIL.

<https://scratch.mit.edu/>

My choice:

I would use the video "Yes, I Can! | Animal Song For Children" (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lr0Mc6Qilo>) from the *Super Simple Songs* youtube channel. The song introduces animals and actions that they can or can't do. I think it is very interesting because the verb "can" is a basic one, so it is one of the first things children learn at a very young age. Through this repetitive song they can learn the correct grammar for sentences like "I can/can't _____" without they even realising. Further activities can be done to deepen this knowledge, like activities to start writing simple sentences and getting a first contact with the written English. Moreover, this video opens new doors for further learning, such as the actions that humans can or can't do, the animals, the action verbs, the different environments (sea, jungle, classroom)... And it is also easy to make it significant by creating a project out of it! There are a lot of schools that choose the name for their class, and many times the classroom name is a name of an animal, or the jungle, etc... That could be the starting point for introducing this song.

You've done a good job Txell.

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