

Thrive! An action about your five senses

The FunSongs Method

FunSongs action songs should be taught through suggestion, mime and expressive movement. Here are some tips to help you get the best results from your students.

Focus Minds on the Song Concepts

Ask your class in L1 (or in English):
"What are your five senses?" Tell your class they are going to learn an action song about the five senses.

Teach Thrive

1. First teach the names of the five senses and relative verbs using the flashcards and the expressive gestures used in the song video.
2. Teach each line through mime. Try and limit the use of L1 as much as you can.
3. Build up your children's knowledge of the song gradually in simple steps.
4. When you are ready, ask the class to stand and perform the song.
5. First try it with the guide voice MP3.
6. Now try it with the karaoke MP3 which you can use for school performances.

Working on the language in the song

Next lesson, project or distribute the song sheet. Play through the song as everyone follows the written text. Play the music-only version with everybody reading and singing.

Mime games

When your class has learned the song and its actions, invite a volunteer to come up to the front to do some of the actions in the song without singing. The rest of the class says (or sings), the language chunk associated with the actions. Then ask your children to do this in pairs.

Cross-curricular/CLIL suggestions

Organise a project with the science and art teachers. This could include an exhibition of objects and paintings associated with each of the 5 senses and a performance of the action song to parents.

Flashcards and Worksheets

Print out or project them.

Flashcards

Use the five flashcards both before and after you have taught your class the action song.

Invite your students to be creative and invent their own phrases using the most common verbs associated with each sense. Some suggestions:

Hearing: to hear, to listen (to)
I listen to music every day.

Sight: to see, to watch, to look (at)
I look at books and pictures.

Touch: to touch, to feel
I use my fingers to touch things.

Smell: to smell, to sniff
I can smell something nice in the kitchen.

Taste:
I taste ice-cream with my tongue.

Worksheet 1 Find the key words

Pair up and give one photocopy to each pair. Help the children identify the key words in the word block on the left by drawing a ring or highlighting them.

Worksheet 2 Four Faces, Four Senses

Hand out copies of the worksheet. Teach "What's missing?"

Next go through the funny faces. Children shout out the missing body part for each one. Finally they draw it/them in and label the sense.

