PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT ACADEMY

ADVANCING LEARNING

MODULE OVERVIEW

ADVANCING TEACHING AND LEARNING THROUGH PROJECT WORK

Advancing Teaching and Learning in the MENA Young Learner English Language (ESL/EFL) Classroom through Project Work

Module Overview

Unit Background

"We want our students to not just 'know' the language, but be able to use it…"

We are sure many English teachers in MENA feel this way…!

Projects are one of the best ways to engage young learners in English language learning (in our opinion). However, they are not always easy to set up and manage. Coursebooks also, often mention or include projects, but they might not always be as supportive as they need to be? We believe that teachers in MENA really want their students to be motivated, engaged, collaborating and communicating in English. So, how can we use projects to best effect and get our students using English in rich and meaningful ways?

> "Project work represents so much more than group work… [and] should be viewed as a versatile vehicle for fully integrated language and content learning"
>
> (Stoller, 1997)

In this FREE, bite-size, online Professional Development Module, we will examine this topic within the context of the MENA region, and then explore aspects such as:

- o Attitudes towards project work with young learners here in MENA.
- o Whether project work replaces or complements a traditional approach.
- o What benefits projects might bring to the teaching and learning experiences of YLs.
- o What the research says about project work in the EFL/ESL classroom.
- o How to bring project work into our classrooms, including how to adapt coursebook materials into project work.
- o Engage students in and through project work in an online learning environment.
- o How to assess project work.

*Registration is open from 15th – 31st August, 2021

Chapter One: **Reflective Survey (posted on August 22nd)**

After submitting the module registration form you will be invited to join our Digital Classroom. Once inside you will need to complete a short reflective survey introducing yourself and giving some general information regarding your views on, and how you currently approach, the module topic in your current teaching context, as well as your goals/expectations for the module. (30 mins)

Chapter Two: **Background Reading (posted on August 22nd)**

In this chapter you will receive access to both a short (accessible) reading and a long (academic) reading on the module topic, plus some further advised readings if you wish to explore the topic in more depth. There will be a pre-reading and post-reading task provided for each. *(30 mins)*

Chapter Three: **Webinar (September 7th)**

The course leader will then host a live webinar on our topic and introduce the task for you to develop in the next chapter. Details will be posted on the Google Class 'Forum' so you can register for this webinar (it will also be recorded and shared in the class for those unable to attend). *(1 hr)*

Chapter Four: **Practical Activity (September 7th – September 30th)**

In this chapter you will be tasked with designing and implementing a practical activity in your teaching context (you will have a few weeks to complete it so don't worry). There will also be an opportunity to participate in a community-based peer review activity afterwards, to both give and receive feedback on each other's projects. *(1.5 hrs)*

Chapter Five: **Reflections**

In this final chapter you will need to complete a short online reflective task, drawing on all of the work done throughout the module. (30 mins)

Completion

We will wrap up with feedback and provide a certificate of participation for the module.

So, if you are interested in developing teaching and learning in your classroom using projects…

REGISTER NOW