

Date: 11th June 2022

Venue: **APIBA Asociación de Profesores de Ingles de Buenos Aires**

Location: online

Website: <https://www.eventbrite.com.ar/e/a-world-of-phonics-for-the-e-fl-classroom-tickets-351096147027?aff=eand>

Summary

Are you one of those teachers who have tried phonics but still finds that 20 English vowel sounds against 5 Spanish ones represent an insurmountable threat? If your answer is YES, come and join this talk.

Creating a make-believe world of phonics may be an ideal approach to teach children spelling, but the material is designed for native speakers of English. How can we make phonics effective for the non-native learner? The major difficulty for non native speakers is that they need to acquire English sounds before they actually learn to blend and segregate English words, and the answer to this question lies in designing a phonological core and activating previous knowledge. The latter relates to Vygotsky's 'zone of proximal development' (ZPD) and 'scaffolding.' In this way, the ZPD will be triggered by sounds children can handle in their mother tongue or playful movements. For example, the story of 'Thumkie', who is naughty because he puts his tongue out to say his name, will act as a scaffold to acquire the English sound in the name of the Marvel superhero 'Thor.'

Through stories, songs and phonics games, children are introduced to English sounds that help them acquire new articulatory habits. This scaffolding will raise phonological awareness to sound out words and blend sounds in English and eventually learn to read and write in a English in an EFL context.

Teachers will be delighted to see, in short classroom videos, how simple it could be to transform their classes into happy reading sessions, creatively accomplished through stories, sound tricks, music and games. There is a world of phonics for non native speakers too. Come and discover it yourself.



A world of Phonics for the EFL classroom

