

The Jawbreaker and the Sound Ticklers

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Venue: [Tesol International](#)

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15
NOVEMBER

SPLIS Webinar: 'The Jawbreaker and the Sound-Ticklers':
Webinar
Nov 15, 01:00 PM - 02:00 PM (ET)

DESCRIPTION

'THE JAWBREAKER AND THE SOUND-TICKLERS': AN EFL PHONICS STORYBOOK TO TEACH PRONUNCIATION TO YOUNG LEARNERS

In most EFL contexts, children do not have a strong background in oral English when they start reading or writing. Their oral proficiency is typically low since they need to learn the meaning of words and their sounds before reading or writing. This is a heavy load on young learners' shoulders. However, if we teach children the way to learn, this situation can change.

Phonics seems to be the most suitable approach since it introduces children to early literacy through a wide range of songs, rhymes, and stories. However, most phonics material is designed for native speakers of English (Palavecino, 2022a). Now, the heavy load is passed on to the teacher. The problem is that the targeted sounds that are nonexistent in the mother tongue end up being replaced by the nearest mother tongue sound. Hence, a word like >Jack< might be pronounced >shack<, thus probably causing communication breakdowns. Therefore, teachers need to create material to make new target sounds noticeable. How can EFL teachers be helped?

In this presentation, the speaker will focus on introducing new articulatory habits in a simple way through an EFL phonics story of her own creation called 'The Jawbreaker and the sound-ticklers' (Palavecino, 2022b). This story creates a world of fantasy and a memorable context (Ceïce-Murcia et al., 2010) for the acquisition of the 'J' in Jack and 'G' in Ginny. Since using meta-language does not work with children, this context will provide the right scaffolding (Read, 2006) for the successful acquisition of new articulatory habits prior to other reinforcement activities.

Teachers will see how teaching targeted sounds through stories, sound tricks, music, and games can be accomplished creatively and through uncomplicated procedures. No doubt there is a world of Phonics for non-native speakers too.

PRESENTER



by
Stella Palavecino
