

Characteristics of young learners

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There are some children's special characteristics in learning the language. They are as the following:

- 1. Children respond the language well through concrete things (visual things) rather than abstract things.
 2. Children need physical movements and real activities to stimulate their thinking.
 3. Children will be enthusiastic if they are taught using fun activities or being involved in activities.
 4. Children love to play, and learn best when they are enjoying themselves.
 5. Children learn well through something that is close to their culture.
 6. Children like to work together.



Children's learning is based on imitation and having fun rather than on their awareness of learning. Imitation is the easiest way of introducing new vocabulary and its aim is to lead to correct articulation and intonation of sounds and their memorization. In teaching young learners, intonation exercises are especially useful because of children's flexibility of larynx which disappears with time. In terms of imitation exercises, the teacher should pay attention to learners' reactions determined by their age. Furthermore, the teacher should change the techniques of teaching to avoid learners getting bored



Young Learners

Age: 7 to 9 years old

Language focus / Skills used:

- 1. Listening and speaking
 2. Vocabulary items
 3. New in Reading and writing
 4. No grammar teaching or metalanguage (chunks through songs and classrooms language)



Characteristics of young learners

- - Low concentration span
 - short memory
 - logical - analytical
 - problems in sharing in group work
 - developing confidence in expressing themselves
 - limited motor skills
 - love stories, fantasy, imagination, drawing and coloring



Characteristics that teacher and parents should know :

- - They respond well to rewards from the teacher
 - they have limited writing and Reading skills even in their first language
 - generally they are more concerned about themselves than others
 - they have limited knowledge about the world
 - they enjoy fantasy, imagination and movement



1. They have short attention span. So teachers should vary their techniques to break the boredom. they should give varied activities as handwriting , songs , games etc.
2. They are very active. Try to ask them to play games , role play dialogues and involve them in competitions.
3. They respond well to praising. Always encourage them and praise their work.
4. They differ in their experience of language. Treat them as a unit , don't favour those who know some English at the expense of those who do not know.
5. They are less shy than older learners. Ask them to repeat utterances , resort to mechanical drills.
6. They are imaginative. Use pictures to teach new vocabulary related to concrete meanings, but may have some difficulties distinguishing between imagination and real world.
7. They enjoy learning through playing. Young learners learn best when they learn through games. Let games be an essential part of your teaching.



There are some unique characters that children have :

- Hyperactive children
- Distractibility child
- Impulsive child
- Overachiever
- Slow learner



**THANK YOU FOR
ATTENTION**

