

November 2020

Dear Elementary School English Teachers,

In the upcoming month, we need to make sure that we are working on getting our students on track and closing the gaps that may have been formed during these previous months.

This letter will outline what you should focus on in your teaching ***within the continuum*** of English Language Learning. As we are teaching **skills** rather than subject matter we must therefore continue on the same path we were on before. We need to make sure we are working on **vocabulary**, as well as **strengthening accurate and fluent reading, writing and speaking skills**.

All links and resources appear on the [Stay Up-to-Date!](#) Site. In addition, you may refer to the updated [Elementary](#) – מיקוד הלימודים.

In order to take the students from the level they are at and to close the gaps, you need to assess where they are. If you have not yet assessed what your students know, then please use the ABLE Kit for the 5th graders and parts of the Meitzav Exams for the 6th graders:

- [The Able Kit](#) (posted October 2020)
- [Assessment for 6th grade](#)

For help with struggling learners and formulating intervention programs, please contact our literacy helpline counselor, Dr. Tamar Shmerler tammarshmerler@gmail.com. She is also available on the telephone on Thursdays 3-5 pm: 054-5827881.

As elementary school teachers in our students' formative years of English language learning, we should connect our students to the lesson. We must make sure they are actively and successfully engaged. It is important that learning English is a positive experience for our students and that they gain a sense of accomplishment which is conducive to their success.

Make sure that students are given work so that they continue practicing what they have learned in the lesson. This is particularly important when students have fewer hours with their teacher because of the division into pods/קטגוריות.

We should not emphasize tests and grades at this time. However, do give feedback on students' performance in the various skills in class as formative assessment. This will give you focus in your teaching and enable your students to be active in their learning. Click on this link to see the English Inspectorate's suggestion for evaluation and assessment at this time:

<https://sites.google.com/view/englishfromhome/resources/elementary/young-efl-learners> (slides 17-19)

Grade 3

- Aural-oral exposure (English filmed lessons)
<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1y8VldiThphXxJwmoDPTSRXu-7hc17udv39cHMOB0gh0/edit>
- Vocabulary from Pre Foundation Band I (using songs, dialogues, short stories)
https://meyda.education.gov.il/files/Mazkirut_Pedagogit/English/prefoundationcando.pdf
- 5 Minutes of English https://pop.education.gov.il/tchumey_daat/english/yesodi/
- Learn in Tune <https://sites.google.com/view/learnintune/home?authuser=0>
- Reading readiness
- Phonological Awareness

Grade 4

- Expanding vocabulary from Band I (Orally and written)
https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1mCbRIPCUpJa66QkvYVShB9ZOCACVsYcGvCFA_qfd2k/edit#gid=0
- Speak Up <https://sites.google.com/view/speakup1>
- 5 Minutes of English https://pop.education.gov.il/tchumey_daat/english/yesodi/
- Learn in Tune <https://sites.google.com/view/learnintune/home?authuser=0>
- Reading words with special letter combinations (such as *sh*, *ch*, etc.)
- Getting to know children's stories in English

Grade 5

- Use the ABLE Diagnostic Test to assess students' levels.
- Expanding vocabulary from Band I, see above for link (orally and written): identifying, understanding, reading, writing and pronouncing words and phrases correctly.
https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1mCbRIPCUpJa66QkvYVShB9ZOCACVsYcGvCFA_qfd2k/edit#gid=0
- Strengthening and deciphering words with complex letter combinations (*tion*, etc., and simple spelling rules)
- Basic grammar rules https://meyda.education.gov.il/files/Mazkirut_Pedagogit/English/curriculum2020Elementary.pdf (English Curriculum pp. 36-39)
- Oral and written interaction in different social contexts
- Reading and Listening Comprehension (Reception)
- Oral and written Production of Language on known subjects

Grade 6

- Expanding vocabulary from Band I (orally and written) identifying, understanding, reading, writing and pronouncing words and phrases correctly.
https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1mCbRIPCUpJa66QkvYVShB9ZOCACVsYcGvCFA_qfd2k/edit#gid=0
- Reading fluently different genres such as texts, stories, tables etc
- Going over the basic grammar learned in the 5th grade and continuing with structures as outlined in the Curriculum https://meyda.education.gov.il/files/Mazkirut_Pedagogit/English/curriculum2020Elementary.pdf (English Curriculum pp. 36-39)
- Oral and written interaction in different social contexts
- Reading and listening comprehension (Reception)
- Oral and written production of language on familiar subjects
- Digital Projects which incorporate all skills (can be done in class and online)
<https://sites.google.com/view/digital-projects-stayuptodate/elementary-school-projects?authuser=0>
- Speak Up <https://sites.google.com/view/letstalk7/home> (a site for 7th grade, but most of the material is also suitable for the 6th grade)

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