

Buzz Green Day 2022



My Experiences Teaching (Buzz Green)

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Sponsors

Akebono Press
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Schedule

Have sent to confirm (**facebook**)

After each set of presentation can chat in the general room

April 23rd (Provisional)

2:00 Introduction Steve Quasha (**Confirmed**)

2:15- 2:45

Room A

Martin Sedaghat (TYL SIG Program Chair) (**Confirmed**)

Room B

Kurt Samson (**Email**)

3:00-3:30

Room A

Nicholas J Wilson (**Confirmed**)

Room B

Deborah Grow (**confirmed**)

3:45- 4:15

Room A

Yoko Takano (**Confirmed on facebook**)

4:15-4:45 Break

4:45-5:45 My Share

Room A

Natsuho Mizuguchi, (**confirmed and room host**) Naoki Tashiro (**confirmed**), Yanki Chung (**confirmed**)

Room B

Namiko Tsuruta (**email**), Scott Combs (**confirmed**), Kenny Fritts (**confirmed**)

6:00-6:30 Jackson Koon Yat Lee (**Confirmed**)

6:30-6:45 Reflections

6:45-? Closing remarks Glenn

Abstracts

2:15- 2:45

Room A

Martin Sedaghat (TYL SIG Program Chair)

Teaching English at the preschool level can be rewarding but very challenging

Teaching English at the preschool level can be rewarding but very challenging. How can we design lessons that will be engaging for children aged 1-3? What learning goals are realistic for these ages? What kind of activities will best utilise their senses of sight, hearing, and touch? What are some useful and cost-effective tools that will activate their curiosity? This presentation will offer some answers to these questions, and share advice and insights from the presenter's five years of preschool teaching experience.

2:15- 2:45

Room B

Kurt Samson

Title: New Approaches in ELT Flashcard Design for Young Learners

Abstract

Vocabulary flashcards are a common feature of many EFL programs aimed at young learners, with a typical structure (e.g., word on one side, picture on the other) shared by most. However, flashcards as a tool have potential to go beyond the page and incorporate engaging new elements to capture the attention of young learners! In this presentation, we'll review some recent literature pertaining to the use of flashcards in the EFL context. Then, the presenter will cover some current trends, ideas, and technology that teachers can consider for flashcards in their own YL classrooms and programs.

Bio:

Kurt Samson is treasurer for JALT Nagoya. He is also a curriculum developer for No Borders International School in Aichi, Japan as well as an MA TESOL candidate at Nagoya University of Foreign Studies. Kurt has worked with young learners for over

15 years both as an English teacher and a music instructor. His research interests include sociocultural theory, interactional competence, and discourse analysis

3:00-3:30

Room A



Nicholas J. Wilson

Title: Teaching in the Metaverse - An Introduction

In the last two years, teachers have learned how to use apps like Zoom, Teams and Meets to reach out to students outside of the classroom. Despite the numerous benefits, students remain "boxed" inside their screens and have limited options in terms of engagement with their classmates. The concept of metaverse, while not totally new, has recently gained new traction: an interactive digital environment where people can meet, talk and work together no matter where they are. So, is this something educators should consider when planning distance/hybrid learning activities for their students? In this short presentation, we will take a quick look at what a metaverse classroom currently looks like and what it can offer to teachers.

Biography

Nicholas J. Wilson is an elementary and junior high school English teacher and curriculum developer fostering students' digital literacy through foreign language education. He is a Level 1 & 2 Google Certified Educator and Level 1 Adobe Creative Educator in charge of supporting the professional development of English and Japanese teachers as a mentor, area leader, and member of the local board of education's Digital Transformation Committee. His current research focuses on exploring the potential of the metaverse as a learning environment. He is also an active JALT officer involved in planning, promoting, and coordinating regional events and national conferences, and the founder and organizer of ALT Agorà, a series of monthly webinars designed for assistant language teachers, part of the ALT Training Online grassroots initiative.

3:00-3:30

Room B

Deborah Grow “Little ones LOVE what they know”

Abstract:

Little ones LOVE what they know. Teaching very young learners can feel daunting because it seems that you are starting from ground zero but actually there are a lot of familiar activities that can make English friendly and fun for the pre-school crowd. By using familiar concepts, rhythmic activities, engaging musical books, and movement, little ones will be looking forward to your English classes. The added plus is that your school enrollment will feel the benefits. This workshop will give you practical tips on how to engage your youngest students.

Bio:

Deborah Grow

Adept at wearing many hats, Deborah is an author, singer/songwriter, teacher, teacher trainer, and voice-over actor. After spending many years in New York City, where she worked as a professional actor and singer, Deborah is now focused on helping children in Japan and around the world through English and music. With more than 20 years of teaching experience in various settings from her school, The English Garden in Tsukuba, to immersion kindergarten to university, she is happy to share her ideas with fellow teachers. She is the author of Honeysuckle Cottage, books and songs for children as well as English is Easy. Deborah has been a speaker at Tokyo TED X teachers, national and regional JALT, the International Training in Communication Association, and conducted workshops for teachers and students in Japan, Vietnam, and China.

3:45-4:15

Yoko Takono

Title: TBLT makes students active learners in the small school

Abstract

This presentation explains why TBLT:Task-Based Language Teaching is important to make students active and positive. Students in the small private school are leaning English with this presenter after school and increase their confidence towards speaking and writing through TBLT. In order to measure their improvement, action research has been done from April to February in 2021 academic year and target students are the 2 boys and 1 girl aged 10. They joined the TBLT classes every Wednesday evening for 70 minutes and took performance tests three times. Compared with last year's action research results, their speaking and writing skills are improved. Especially they showed willingness to write better in this research. Furthermore, they increased their confidence in speaking performance tests due to the positive wash back. This presentation shows both qualitative and quantitative data, students' works and comments to discuss why TBLT makes students active learners.

Bio

Yoko Takano has been teaching English in her own private school (Nagoya) for 25 years to help local students improve communication skills. She is also teaching grammar and writing in NUFS, TOEIC, business writing and communication skills in Nanzan university. Her research interests are SLA, TBLT and CALL.

4:45-5:45

My Share

Room A

Natsuho Mizoguchi

“Three Ideas to Facilitate Small Talk”

Small Talk is becoming more and more popular in English classes at Japanese elementary and junior high schools. It is a good chance for students to output what they have learned before, and it also helps students practice talking about themselves. However, it is sometimes difficult for them to have a conversation in a foreign language by themselves. This presentation will introduce three ideas that the presenter found helpful in a junior high school classroom.

Bio: Natsuho Mizoguchi is a part-time English teacher at Shigakukan University in Aichi and two high schools in Gifu. She also has taught English at a public junior high school, eikaiwa, and cram schools. Her research interest includes coordination of university English programs.

Naoki Tashiro

“Perspectives on teaching English-language writing skills to elementary school students in a limited time frame from a small local private cram school class room”

New curriculum guidelines started at elementary schools in April 2020. Foreign Languages become a subject from 5th grade, and students need not only to learn to listen and speak but also to read and write. This presenter is a private cram school teacher who was in charge of English lessons for four 6th grade elementary school students every week from January 2022 to March 2022. This presentation focuses on his attempts to teach the four students writing skills. There were three elements: efficient use of time, setting clear 3-monthly goals, and lessening the pressure of writing in English for the first time for the children. This attempt can suggest a new point of view for teaching writing skills in elementary schools, junior high schools, and other classroom settings.



Bio

Naoki Tashiro is a student in the Foreign Languages Department at Gifu Shotoku Gakuen University in Japan. He is a student advisor and staff member at MELT, which is the social language learning space at Gifu Shotoku Gakuen University. He has

experience teaching English and Japanese to students from two years old to high schoolers.

Establishing an English Conversational Space in a new High School in Tokyo, Japan

Presenter: **Yanki Chung**

Abstract:

Setting up English spaces often involves a team of supportive teachers and a large budget. This session, however, demonstrates that little resource is needed in creating an ALT-facilitated conversational space that reaches at least half of the school's population within a four-months period. It also discusses various factors that affect the popularity of the space and the willingness of the students to participate in mini activities during short recess hours. Emphasis will be given on activities provided and learning that has taken place so far, improving accessibility to the ALT with the set up, and the growing recognition of the space for students and even teachers to learn English outside of regular classroom time.

Bio:

Yanki Chung is a Hong Kong Canadian, recently hired as a JET Programme ALT at a public high school under the Tokyo Metropolitan Board of Education. She is also a CELTA certified teacher.

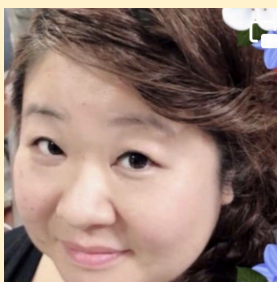
My Share

Room B

Scott Combs (Toyohashi)

Imagination to Reality: Helping Kids with English

In this day and age being able to be understood is paramount. In this world the lingua franca is English and having a combination of learning it and acquiring English skills to be able to communicate is of high importance. In this presentation I will share what I have been doing in the pursuit of this desired combination to achieve this outcome successfully



EFL and the Power of Songs

Abstract:

English is an international language, but ethnomusicologists know that music is, too. How can we use songs to empower our learners with the messages they convey? How can we use songs to help our learners become more confident, articulate and compassionate English speakers?

Please join this interdisciplinary session and add more songs to your repertoire in the classroom (and at karaoke)!

Bio:

Namiko Tsuruta began solfège and playing classical piano with the Suzuki Method at the age of 4 in Japan. She also learned to play the flute in elementary school, and joined the marching band in junior high. As an ESL learner in the States, she spent hours watching MTV, listening and writing down the lyrics of hits from Casey Kasem's "American Top 40." She continued to play the piano, chamber music, and sing in choir at university.

Her 23 years of teaching EFL in preschool, K-12 and working with ALTs, homeroom teachers and JTEs have helped her learn many more songs, and karaoke sessions with her friends inspire her to keep singing.

Presenter: Kenny Fritts

"Techniques, ideas, and discussions for successful youchien/hoikuen Seika style lessons"

View video of the very first lesson for nen-sho aged students (3-year-olds) at a hoikuen. See how the students respond and communicate for their first time in English. Join the discussion on best practices for getting 3-year-olds to 6-year-olds to follow and use English in youchien/hoikuen.

Kenny Fritts has taught in more than a dozen different youchien and hoikuen over the past 15+ years. Kenny has started three different international preschools and is focused on early English education.

6:00-6:30

Jackson Koon Yat Lee

Title: Nurturing 4Cs (Creativity, Curiosity, Courage, and Confidence) through Student-Centric Lessons

Abstract:

Managing a class of energetic young learners can often feel chaotic, often inviting teachers to keep a tighter rein on what happens in class. However, such an approach can also hamper students' creativity and their courage to explore. To nurture students' curiosity and confidence, it is important to share ownership of lessons with the learners. One approach to reach a better balance can be found by making activities more student centric, which leads to better student agency. This session will provide suggestions and examples of new and revamped classroom activities that lets students take more control, as well as ideas on making lesson contents and classroom management student focused.

Bio:

Jackson Koon Yat Lee is a Hong Kong Canadian. He was an ALT for 4.5 years, and he is currently a lecturer at Toyo University in Tokyo. He is the former Chair of the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee of JALT and the former President of Gifu JALT. His research interests include intercultural communication, diversity in ELT, the Japanese English education system, and speaking and presentation skills.

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