Exploiting Young Learners Coursebooks

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Abstract: In assisting students to learn English, ELT materials are an important resource for teachers. Schools have set certain coursebooks to be used and YL teachers have limited choice but to use the coursebooks. Some coursebooks are rich but others are not. Some content may be too difficult or challenging for the children. It should allow children to connect meaning with the words use. YL teachers have a tendency to over-focus on grammatical form at the expense of meaning of the grammar points taught. This meant the language is not related to the students' daily lives or real communicative needs. There also might be topics that are not relevant for and interesting to children. Adapting course book activities is something teachers should do as it will facilitate the children in understanding the meaning. Children could learn the language best when they use it to communicate. This workshop will provide illustration to design additional course book activities and to exploit the YL course books. At the end of the workshop participants will be able to develop the course books into a meaningful context to children. Participants receive worksheets describing techniques.

Intended audience: Primary and secondary school teachers and related participants