

Active Activities

1. Total Physical Response - What is TPR? How can you use it for beginning level learners? Learners practice following one step directions:
 - Please sign here
 - Read this
 - Follow me
 - Open the book
 - Close the book
 - (See step-by-step directions on the Teaching ESL handout)
2. Project Based Learning - What is it? “Students acquire a deeper knowledge through active exploration of real-world challenges and problems.”
 - Find a problem
 - Find a solution
 - Research and come up with a plan
 - Produce a product
 - Present about the product
3. Role-plays and Dialogues - Great for things learners need to practice, such as calling 9-1-1, making a doctor’s appointment, calling in sick
 - Listen to an example (or a you-tube video)
 - Talk about what you heard
 - Read a dialogue
 - Use the example to write their own
 - Practice
 - Present
4. Flashcard Creation - Learners can create flashcards for vocabulary, skills, grammar, ideas, etc, and practice the information in multiple ways. For example:
 - Pick a card and do the verb
 - Categorization (for various topics)
 - Cards in bags categorized by grammar; each type a different color
 - Matching pictures with medical symptoms
 - Question and answer
 - Write sentences, cut them up, resort them into the proper structure
 - Add new vocabulary to a growing pile of cards

5. Classification - Group by shared qualities
 - Parts of speech
 - Vocabulary
 - Skills
 - Ideas in a reading passage

6. Graphic Organizers - Give a visual representation to help breakdown and show relationships between concepts
 - Venn Diagram = to compare and contrast words or concepts
 - Semantic Map/Word Web = to show the connection between words
 - Web = to show how ideas are related
 - Structured Organizer = to show the main idea and supporting ideas
 - Process Chart = to show steps in a process
 - Table = to compare ideas

7. Moving around
 - Getting out of the chair and moving to learn
 - Scavenger hunt for vocabulary search
 - Acting out words, grammar, etc.
 - TPR
 - Taking pictures of needed vocabulary
 - Games

8. Field Trips - Practice associated vocabulary and encourage the learners to speak with the workers in these places
 - Grocery Store
 - Bank
 - Library
 - Movie theater
 - Restaurant

9. Games - Should have a goal, and it is important to convey the goal to the learners
 - Memory
 - Matching
 - Question and Answers
 - Simple Scrabble
 - Flyswatters to “smack” words on the board or desk
 - Grammar review
 - Vocabulary