



Promoting the Development of Oracy and Literacy through Interactive Story Activities

Christian & Missionary Alliance
South Horizons Nursery School

Background



Local curriculum
Full-day nursery
Project approach

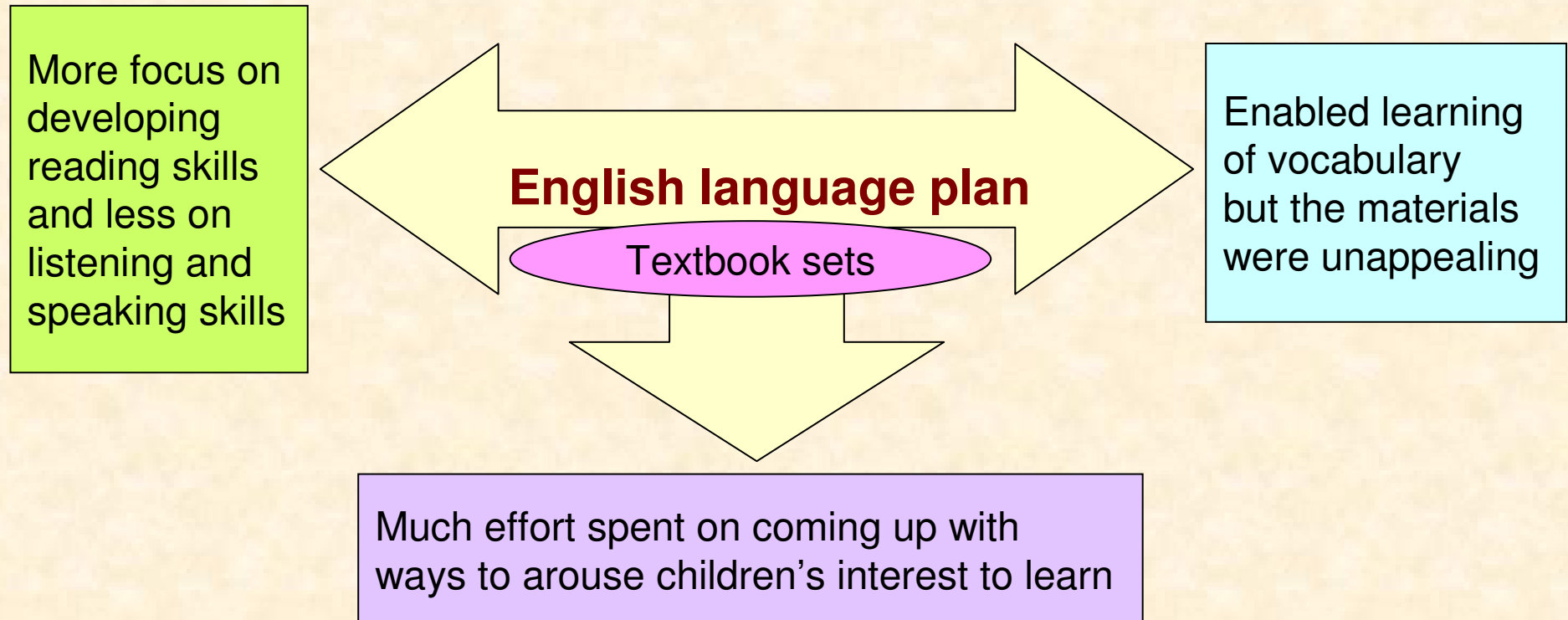


HK Island South



Cantonese
English/PTH

Opportunities for Improvement



Opportunities for Improvement

It would be better if the children could:

Learn in a fun and pressure-free environment

Children need to be interested in what they are learning (CDC, 2006)

Learn through interaction

Children learn language skills via engagement in shared activities with teachers (Wheldall & Glynn, 1989)

Initiatives for Improvement

In school year 2009/2010 to 2010/2011,
three teachers joined the Project



Professional
Development
Programme

Learn new ways to
expose children to
English

On-site
School
Support

The New Initiative

Stories

3 teachers,
102 children in
K2 and K3

28 story titles were used in
a 21-month tryout period

The New Initiative

Children like stories

Cater to children's
learning needs

Why use stories?

Natural discourses
of interaction

Speak in and
listen to English in
meaningful
context

Authentic
use of language

The New Initiative

Children are taken through a structured language experience in a plot with a beginning, a middle and an end (Farrell, 1994)

Why use stories?

Children see that there is a function to the vocabulary items, phrases and sentences, which helps them interact with others (Wheldall & Glynn, 1989)

The New Initiatives

Interactive
Story
Activities

Interactive Story Activities

- Storytelling
- Shared Reading
- Drama Activities

- Storybooks
- Nursery rhymes
- Self-developed stories

Interactive Story Activity 1

Storytelling



Interactive Story Activity 1

Story Title: Two Silly Cats (K2)



Interactive Story

Activity 1

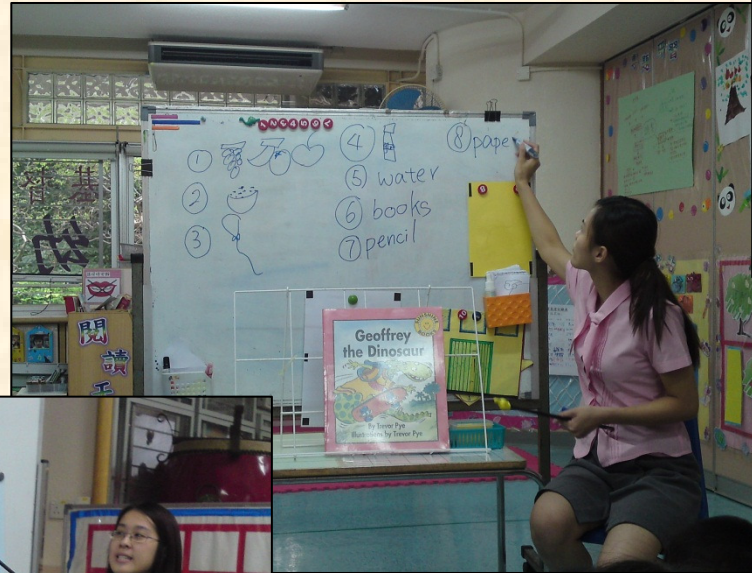
Video – Two Silly Cats (adapted story)

- Learning objectives: To understand and enjoy the story, participate in the process of Storytelling and make use of vocabulary, phrases or sentences
- Children's participation: 2 children as silly cats, the rest echo their lines
- Method: Telling with props



Interactive Story Activity 2

Shared Reading



Interactive Story Activity 2

Story Title: **Sorry, I'm Busy (K3)**



Interactive Story

Activity 2

Video – Sorry, I’m Busy (storybook)

- Learning objectives: To say the lines as presented in the text and enact the story
- Children’s participation: 5 children take up the roles in the story
- Method: Shared reading in roles (session 3)



Interactive Story

Activity 3

Drama activities



Interactive Story Activity 3

Story Title: Our Lunch Lady, Mrs. Kam (K2)

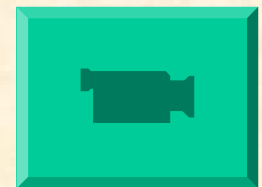


Interactive Story

Activity 3

Video – Our Lunch Lady, Mrs. Kam (self-developed story)

- Learning objectives: To respond to teacher's instructions and say "I am not here" and "We are not here"
- Children's participation: All children took part as the vegetables in the story
- Drama strategies: Game, Teacher-in-role



What was it like for the children?

No pressure - just like casual playtime activities

Made effort to listen to the teacher's speech

More likely to understand

More responsive to teacher's questions and instructions

Learned many new language items from stories

More likely to remember the language items learned

More likely to choose English storybooks

What did the teachers learn through the tryouts?

- Be sensitive and cater to the children's learning needs
- Allow them to learn through motivation and interaction
- Immerse them in meaningful contexts

• complement the stories with the right teaching strategies and pedagogy to enable the children to listen to, speak and read in English with interaction

Making a Positive Change

English language plan after joining the Project

Replace textbook sets with
storybooks from various publishers

Conduct story activities frequently
to create a joyful and interactive
learning atmosphere

Use interactive story activities to
promote development of oracy
and literacy

The background of the slide is divided into two main sections. The top section consists of several horizontal stripes in shades of orange, yellow, and light pink. The bottom section is a solid, textured yellow color. The text "Thank You!" is centered in the yellow section.

Thank You!