Lesson n°1

Time: 45 mins - 1 hour
Level: First Contact Primary Children in an E.F.L. context.
(suggested age-group: 9-11 year olds)
Grammar: To come from
To speak
plus nationalities, languages and countries.
Grammar revision: Introductions. «My name’s...»
Material needed: Copies of flags from the countries mentioned in the book
(available from the Internet). Props for the roleplay exercise (8 x pictures of
cats, a box, a beret, a model aeroplane, a bobble hat, a police hat, paper
tissues, a violin, a fan, and copies of the flags).

STEP ONE
Put the flags on to the board. Ask the children in their native language if they
can identify them. What do they associate with each country? ie food, drink,
customs etc. Write everything down in the children’s own language and in
English.

STEP TWO
Read the story. Point out the new vocabulary using the props.

STEP THREE
Activity. Act out the story.

Each child has a role in the story, either showing the flag or helping in the
mime of the story as it is re-read. Divide the roles in the following way for a
class of 16 children.

8 children have a picture of a cat and a picture of a flag (include the Union
Jack for the cat in the box in the book).

- One child represents France and wears a beret
- One child represents Spain and holds a model plane
- One child represents Norway and wears a bobble hat
- One child represents Greece and wears a police hat
- One child represents Brazil and sneezes into tissues
- One child represents Germany and «plays» the violin
- One child represents Japan and holds the fan
- One child represents the United Kingdom and holds the box

As the story is re-read each child helps to mime the pictures in the book.
When the first sentence «My Cat likes to hide in Boxes» is heard, one of the
children with a picture of a cat, stands up and puts it in the box. When the cat
from France is mentioned, the child with the French flag stands up along with
the child wearing the beret.

The next time «My Cat likes to hide in boxes» is re-read, another child with a
cat picture stands up and puts it in the box. The story continues with the
Spanish flag being shown and the child with the aeroplane standing up,
followed by a repeat performance from «France». In this way the story is
mimed, acted and absorbed by all the class.
Lesson n°2

Activity No 1
Homework Activity: copy the flags below and ask the children to colour in the flags writing the name of the country underneath.

Activity No 2
Countries and nationalities
In Australia, Australian people speak English.
In Brazil, ... people speak ...
In Canada, ... people speak ...
In China, ... people speak ...
In Spain, ... people speak ...
In America, ... people speak ...
In France, ... people speak ...
In England, ... people speak ...
In Japan, ... people speak ...
In Germany, ... people speak ...

Optional Exercises: Activity No 3
The children complete activity no 3 finding the nationalities and countries hidden in the Wordsearch square.

Nationalities | Countries
---|---
AUSTRALIAN | CHINA
CANADIAN | BRAZIL
JAPANESE | AMERICA
FRENCH | NORWAY
GREEK | GERMANY
SPANISH | ENGLAND

These two lesson plans were written by Diane Thomas. She is an experienced teacher currently teaching English as a Foreign language to children in Primary Schools in France.