

Exploring Verbs - Inside Outside Circle

Purpose

This activity takes all 45 verbs in the story and encourages pupils to teach them to each other so that collectively they can access the vocabulary in the story.

Objective

- ✓ To develop memorization strategies
- ✓ To retain new vocabulary

Preparation

Double-sided infinitive cards cut up (French on one side, English on the other) – 1 card per pupil

Starter

Display verbs on smartboard and explain that they all appear in the story of the Gingerbread Man. Say that collectively it would be helpful if the class knew what the words meant. Not all pupils need to know all the words, but just as in English, it would aid their understanding of the story if, between them all they could work out the meaning.

Give each pupil an infinitive card. In pairs ask them to look at their cards, to consider their characteristics, pronunciation and meaning. Ask pupils to raise hands if their verb ends in er - count and record total on board. Do the same for re and ir verbs. Discuss ratio. Display verbs on smartboard and ask pupils to comment on phonic patterns. All pupils need to be confident that they can pronounce their verb correctly.

Activity 1

Inside - Outside Circle

Divide class into 2 groups. Group 1 forms a circle facing outwards. Group 2 forms a circle around group 1 and faces inwards (towards group 1).

Explain that they are going to teach their verb to the person facing them. They will have to think of characteristic and associations to help their circle partner to retain the word and its meaning. Success here is in the teaching of the word.

Ask pupils in the outer circle to walk clockwise around the inner circle. When you give the sign, they stop opposite an inner circle partner. Inner circle pupil has 30 seconds to teach his word, its pronunciation, its spelling and its meaning to outer circle pupil. Inner circle pupil gives frequent praise. After 30 seconds, ask outer circle pupils to teach their word to inner circle partner.

When time is up, ask partners to show the English side of their card, if their partner remembers it correctly, cards are swapped, if not, cards are retained. Call out “Outer circle move on 2 places” process is repeated. Then on 3 places etc.

Activity 2

Ask pupils to sit down. Display French infinitives on board and ask class to call out meaning. You will be able to gauge which verbs have been retained and which ones are more difficult. Discuss activity with class.

Activity 3

Show first few pages of the story and ask class if they can identify their verbs. What do they notice? What is different from the verb on their card? Discuss why they are different.

Debrief

Discuss the activity, asking pupils what they learned, how they learned and if they enjoyed the process and if so, why.

aider	avoir	croquer	échapper	mettre
attraper	courir	chercher	entendre	se mettre
appeler	couper	dire	être	se mouiller
aller	crier	se dire	faire	monter
arriver	commencer	descendre	jeter	mélanger

mordre	poursuivre	rouler	sauter	voir
mastiquer	peser	remplir	tomber	verser
nager	regarder	sortir	traverser	voler
pouvoir	se réjouir	sourire	utiliser	venir

to put	to escape	to eat	to have	to help
to put oneself	to hear	to look for	to run	to catch
to get wet	to be	to say	to cut	to call
to climb	to make or to do	to say to oneself	to cry out	to go
to mix	to throw	to go down	to begin	to arrive

to see	to jump	to roll	to follow	to bite
to pour	to fall	to fill	to weigh	to chew
to steal	to cross	to go out	to look at	to swim
to come	to use	to smile	to rejoice	to be able to