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WORKING WITH LOW-LEVEL EAL LEARNERS

I'm a volunteer!

What are my expectations ?

- The learner is literate in their own language
- If I show a learner once how to do something they will remember
- A learner will progress quickly in their learning if I am helping them
- Learning English must be the learners first priority
- They are helpless. I need to assist them with everything
- I need to speak very slowly and loud for the learner to understand me
- If I think this is best for the learner then it must be what they want

Some Teaching Tips

- Show respect to your learner
- Plan your work
- Simplify
- Use body language
- Use visuals, manipulatives and realia

Simplify

Your speech

- Use simple short sentences
- Use simple verbs forms
- Use short instructions
- Avoid jargon and idiomatic expressions
- Don't provide theoretical explanation to grammar

Paper-based materials

- Use *Comic Sans* or *Century Gothic* fonts size 12 or more
- Don't overload the page—leave lots of white space
- Use authentic materials with adaptation

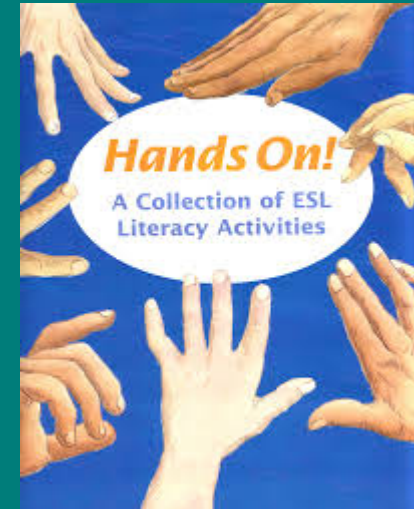
Visuals, manipulatives and realia

- Prepare flash cards
- Photos are better than clip art
- Use real or plastic classroom money
- Real objects (if possible) are better than pictures
- Support reading and writing tasks with pictures

Recommended Resources

From ISANS:

www.isans.ca/hands-on-curricula/



www.isans.ca/teaching-and-learning-resources

Questions?

Thank You