

# Engaging Primary Students in Motivated Speaking Throughout a Whole Period: Steps and Techniques.

Encouraging young students to speak English confidently and freely is not easy, especially those aged 7 to 11 (Grades 3 to 5) who have limited daily English input because their parents are often unavailable to support their learning at home. This presentation introduces a practical, four-step classroom format designed to keep learners actively speaking throughout an entire period. The structure includes: (1) a warm-up using AI-generated video prompts, (2) a group activity with a crocodile teeth toy to spark interaction, (3) U-shape speaking rotations for peer-to-peer practice, and (4) a Free Talk session using named pegs to personalize responses. Students are highly engaged because the format allows them to remain in their “safe zone” by using familiar words and structures, while also encouraging creative combinations—such as blending two questions from different units into a new one (earning a teacher’s high-five for originality). To support daily speaking practice at home, I created AI-supported videos that provide familiar prompts and allow students to listen and answer using the language they’ve learned in class. By keeping this format throughout the school year, rural students can maximize their speaking time in English while building both confidence and active participation. Practical techniques such as bell signals, sticker rewards, and positive peer feedback require minimal preparation yet result in high student engagement and language production.

Keywords: artificial intelligence, young learners, speaking skills motivation, low-prep techniques.

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