Improving Your Online Practice

With Gregory M A Macur

My Research

Macur, G. M. (2020). The Purpose Of Education. *International Journal of Advanced Research*, 983-985

Macur, G. M. (2020). A critical evaluation of an EAL intervention put in place to prepare weaker EAL students for the motivation and language required at the primary stage recommendations for improvement are provided. *International Journal of Advanced Research*, 684-694

Adam, G. M. (2021). A Multi-Disciplinary and Inquiry-Based Learning Activity: The Seven Continents. *Journal of Inquiry Based Activities*, *11*(1), 69-80

Macur, G. M. A. Teaching Online for Kindergarten and Primary Teachers: Get Ready For Your Next Online Class. *Routledge*, **(out September 2022)**

A Subtraction Game to Scaffold Primary Students Word Problem Solving Skills **(in peer review)**
Elementary Teacher Perspectives: The Main Problems When Teaching Online **(in peer review)**

Overview

- Introduction.
- Parents.
- Platforms (a light touch on this).
- Classroom Management.
- Engaging.
- Student welfare.
- Assessment.
- Activities.
- Reduce Marking & Boost Academics.
- Q & A.

Introduction

Problems	Full Data % Of Votes Per Problem	One Country One Vote % Of Votes Per Problem
Assessing Students	17.7	12.3
Engaging Students	14.9	15.4
Technology Issues	12.7	14.4
Parents Over Or	12.6	14.5
Motivating Students	7.5	7.3
Supporting Students	6.9	7.6
Planning And	4.7	2.3
Behaviour	4.5	4.4
Communication	4.5	5.8
Incorporating Social	4.4	5.0
Other	4.0	4.5
Instructions,Modelli	3.9	4.9
Orgnisation	1.6	1.7

Do Teachers Feel As Competent In The Online Teaching Environment?
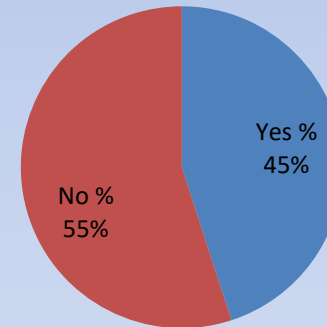
Parents

- 92.33% of parents satisfied when communication is clear (Department of Education of Heilongjiang , 2020).

- 40.9% of parents were worried about poor learning effectiveness (Wang, Wang, & Zhang, 2020).

- Proper communication = Enhanced student performance, higher attainment, improved social skills – it goes on! (Garcia & Thornton, 2014).

Parents – Top Tips

- At least a weekly class email for form tutors.

- Regular WeCom updates.

- Welcome feedback and act on it.

- Use the parent rep.

Platforms – What A Good One Does

Great platforms help you:
- Create and manage resources.
- Manage and share resources with students.
- Notify students.
- Allows students to participate easily.
- Have simple communication methods.
- Track student performance.

(Huang, Zhang, Shen, Tian, & Zeng, 2020).

The quality of platform matters! (Roca, 2006)

Platforms (some to think about)

What you can use?

- Quizlet
- Kahoot
- Microsoft Teams/Forms etc

- Plickers (small groups)
- Thinglink
- Nearpod

Covering your back!

- Share "can't get in" materials before class.
- Test out your platforms and lessons before class!

Classroom Management

Teacher burnout

A meta-analysis of 16 studies on teacher CMSE showed... (Aloe, Amo, & Shanahan, 2013).

Other benefits

- Met learning objectives.

- Safety.

- Increased focus.

- More positivity.

(Manning, 2014)

Classroom Management – Top Tips

- Proximity Praise.

- Reward system.

- Rules Flash Cards – visible on the wall.

- Routines – Link to posture? (to come).

- Attention Grabbers – Visible and clear in camera.

- Student room set up – think back to parents and how to communicate this.

- Limit permissions of students.

(Lathifah, Helmanto, & Maryani, 2020).

Engaging Your Class

- Bored kids misbehave (Ginnis, 2002).
- Active and engaging activities (to come).
- Watch interaction patterns.
  - Teacher/student, student/student, student/content.
  - flipped learning.
- Set class goals.
- Direct questioning – easy win questions.

Engaging Your Class – Break out rooms

- Team leaders
- Announcements
- Monitor in groups
- Require feedback

Student Welfare

Posture

- Students do not sit in lessons with acceptable posture
    - *As lessons progress, it gets worse (Breen, Pyper, Rusk, & Dockrell, 2007) & (Kelly, Dockrell, & Galvin, 2009).*
    - *Negative Health & Engagement impacts (Quka, 2015).*
- The [NHS provide guidelines](#) for this.
    - *Inform students of how to set up their learning space.*
    - *Make a student friendly poster to share.*

Elementary age students can tolerate from 1-2 total hours of instruction per day - (Poole-Boykin, 2020).

Student Welfare

Eye safety

Extended periods of time looking at screens can cause:

- *Eyestrain; Headaches; Blurred vision; Dry eyes; Neck and shoulder pain (American Optometric Association).*

- *Decreased quality of sleep (Patil, Bhavya, & Srivastava, 2019); detrimental to both learning and health (Walker, 2017).*

What can you do?!

American Optometric Association: 20-20-20 rule; take a 20 second break, look at something 20 feet away every 20 minutes.

Eye Yoga – Our adored Eye Exercises…

Yoga ocular exercises positively impact eye fatigue (Gupta & Aparna, 2020).

- Focus shifting
- Eye rolling
- Palming (Watson & Griff, 2020)

Student Welfare

Assessment

As, For, Of & Diagnostic

Diagnostic – What is known?

For – How can we support learning?

Of – What was learnt?

As – Assessing is learning.

(Gardner, 2012)

A teacher in a previous session: "Model assessments on screen share."

Assessment

Quick Adaptations

Diagnostic – Red Card Green Card & Discussion.

For – Live gap fill & Concept checking questions.

Of – Presentations & Project Based Learning.

As – 2 Stars & 1 Wish & Rubric peer-assess.

(Kahoot, Quizlet, Plickers and other websites can be used, they will track student progress and collect data that you can use too). Teams has a quiz function too.

Engaging Activities

Break out rooms	Action based activities	Inquiry based activities	Flipped learning
Warm up discussions	Stand up/sit down to vote games	Research sheets	Pre-reading
Research group projects	Touch your head/touch your nose	Group presentations (older students)	Pre-exposure to vocabulary
Keyword practice	Show and tell	End of lesson questions to research	Discuss with parents
Story prediction	Drilling games	Explore at home activities	Pre-lesson questions

A teacher in a previous session: "Use break out room team leaders."

Reduce Marking & Boost Academics

The Impact of Peer Assessment on Academic Performance: A Meta-analysis of Control Group Studies
(Double, McGrane, & Hopfenbeck, 2020)

Reduce your marking workload
Student presentations
Self-assessment & self-gradable work
Post-class work to be discuss with a friend or parent
Auto-grading quiz sites and applications
Project-based learning

Reduce Marking & Boost Academics

Regular auto-grading quizzes

- Students who perform well in these tend to perform better in traditional examinations (e.g. non-online writing tests). Also, increased frequency of completion correlated with academic achievement (Amoroso, 2005).

- Teachers report feeling positively about these (D, G, & Özlem, 2017).

What Am I Researching Now?

Research

Teacher Perspectives on Breakout Rooms In Online Classrooms In 2022

Book

Collaborative Learning When Teaching Ages 5-11

gregoryteaches@gmail.com

Q & A

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