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Play is **POWERFUL** but only when it has a clear **PURPOSE**.

Games can be a double-edged sword: if we're not careful, the activity becomes the focus, instead of the learning. And it can take hours to prepare for a 15-minute class.

ANY activity becomes educational when guided by an **"INTELLIGENT PURPOSE,"** a **REAL** intention that connects mind and body and **PROMOTES** development, not just "busy motion."



Maria Montessori

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Play isn't a break from learning; it's how young children's brains are wired to **LEARN** most **EFFECTIVELY**.

When we incorporate play into our English classroom, we're not sacrificing academic quality; we're using the most **POWERFUL** teaching **TOOL** available for our young learners.

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Play activates the prefrontal cortex. During play, children's brains show **INCREASED** activity in areas responsible for problem-solving, decision-making, and **CREATIVITY**.



When children play, **cortisol** levels **drop** and their **working memory** capacity **increases**.

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Games create **MEANINGFUL** repetition. Children will happily repeat the same language structures 20-30 times during a game without boredom, the kind of repetition essential for language acquisition but difficult to achieve through drills.



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Unit 7 The Wild Lesson 1 Language




It's a . It has big .

It's a .

I'm and . Can you me?

Unit 7

9

Repetition can be FUN!

10




Unit 2

11



Two essentials that make English "stick" in the early years:

Movement + Music



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Movement switches the brain into "ready to learn" mode.



Movement builds more memory pathways (so Learning sticks)

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Unit 6 Get Cooking! Lesson 1 Language

chicken fish
soup rice
pizza pasta

What do you want for?
I want pizza, please.

I want rice, please.

I want pasta for...

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Music helps language

Rhythm trains the brain for speech rhythm, exactly what English learners need for stress and intonation.



Music gives repetition without boredom

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Unit 6 Please and Thank You! Lesson 3 Story

- What do you want for?
- I want pizza. We say please.
- Here's your pizza. That's my pizza!
- Yum! We say thank you. (Thank you!)
- I can say kind words! I say please and thank you.
- Next time I want pizza, please.

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Unit 6 Let's Dance! Lesson 2 Language

Let's dance!

Let's dance!

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Unit 4 When I Grow Up

Lesson 5 Language

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Play is the **PATHWAY**, but **INTENTION** is the compass. When we combine movement and music with a clear Learning **PURPOSE**, English stops being something children study and becomes something they can **FEEL**, **DO**, and **REMEMBER**.



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