Working with Low Level English Language Learners

Literacy Volunteers Charlottesville/Albemarle

Steven Reid

April 17, 2017

For life My name is My address is I speak I need help. Please call (911, my family member, etc.). For class Can you slow down? Can you repeat that? How do you say What is this called? How do you spell that?	?	
---	---	--

Use realistic and authentic materials

- Clocks
- Calendars
- Color photos
- Models
- Maps
- Menus
- Sales flyers

			_

Teach in small chunks • Don't overload your student • Trying to cover 6 pages in the book in two hours is counterproductive • Focus on a series of small tasks Limit written information • If your student has no connection to writing in any language, "writing it down" won't be as helpful to him/her as it is to someone who is educated • Find a way that is more meaningful. • What do they do to remember things? • How can you connect their own method of learning to English? Engage multiple senses • Sight Text • Pictures Graphics Sound · Listening to the teacher · Recordings or videos · Singing & rhymes • Clapping to indicate syllable stress

Engage multiple senses • Touch • Handling objects • Describing the feel • Making/building things • Describing shapes • Rearranging objects • Taste & Smell • Food, spices • Flowers, perfume • Actions • Moving about • Gestures • Physical games	
S D R E I R	
For those who are interested, this letter group can produce: 6 3-letter words, 10 4-letter words, 6 5-letter words, and 2 6-letter words. Source: TextTwist	
Avoid teaching grammar terms -	

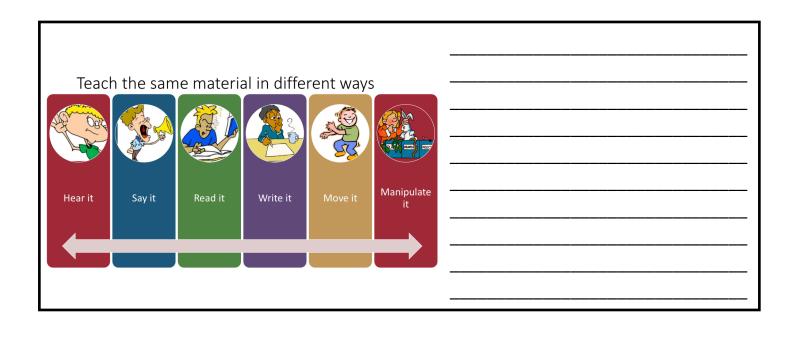
Use color to reinforce ideas

- Highlighers
- Colored index cards
- Colored photos

<u>Nouns</u>	<u>Verbs</u>	<u>Propositions</u>	Adjectives	<u>Adverbs</u>	
dog	throws	to	the	not	
girl	pets	in	a/an	very	
house	hits	with	large	really	
ball	walks	by	brown	only	

Allow time to process

- Hear/read the sentence in English
- Translate into first language
- Develop a response
- Translate response to English
- Realize that they don't know the English words for half the words in their response
- Rephrase response using known vocabulary
- Say response



Repeat & revisit

And finally....

A smile is the most important tool in your toolbox.