

METHODOLOGY

Josep Maria Artigal is a kindergarten and English teacher from Catalonia. He has developed a very effective method to introduce English through stories. I have witnessed the success of some of his ideas in real environment situations. From his theory I highlight the following principles:

- From minute one the students dramatize the characters in the story: students become protagonists in the storytelling moment.
- Importance of voice and intonation: use of melodic intonation. Characters carry the narration. The voice of the narrator is secondary.
- Importance of gestures: especially the main characters, it triggers comprehension.
- Importance of repetition: especially the dialogue of main characters.
- At the beginning highlight the pragmatic and emotional knowledge: who talks, to whom and why. Contents and images are not important at the beginning.
- Distribution of the space plays a fundamental role: the narrator speaks standing-up while the characters talk from a chair.
- Add visual support after, minimum, two sessions: murals, scenarios, small theatres, finger puppets, etc.
- English goes home: the students take the books they created, sing the songs and tell the stories to their relatives with the help of the material.