

OUR RECIPE FOR HOME-LEARNED ENGLISH

There are many methods how to learn English or teach English to others.

Here I will share our favorite one with you.

It is simple, quick and healthy.

And children progress well in English using it.

What you will need:

- an entertaining story
- an adult person with at least basic command of English



Procedure:

- 1. Find a **short story that will catch your child's attention** and where the child will understand at least 80-90% of it. If they do not understand some words, then pictures can be of help.
- 2. Read through the story (or a part of it) together.
- 3. Go back to the beginning and try to ask your child **a few short questions relating to each of the sentences.**

Time:

15 - 20 min daily



How does it work exactly?

For example, there is a picture and a very simple sentence in the story: "Jim is one year old." Below are questions that you can ask. And your child will of course try to answer them.



Is Jim one year old? --> Yes, he is one year old.

Is he three? --> No, he isn't three. He's one.

How old is Jim? --> He's one.

Is Jim old? --> No, he isn't old.

Is he young? --> Yes, he is young.

Is Jim old or young? --> Young. He's young.

How old are you? --> I'm __ years old.

Who is one year old? --> Jim. Jim is one year old.

Are your friends one year old? --> No, they are not.

How old are they? --> They are __ years old.

How old am I? --> You are __.

What is it good for? This way, children will:

- ✓ Refresh and better remember vocabulary
- ✓ Practice grammar in specific sentences
- √ Get used to listening to and understanding English
- ✓ Practice pronunciation and speaking, which will come really handy in their life

It seems interesting to you but...

You cannot speak English well enough?

You do not have the time to look for suitable stories?

You lack the patience to ask so many questions?

You want your children to listen preferably to native speakers?

You rather need to prepare dinner than practice English with the kids?

You yourself would like to learn English this way but are not sure whether it is possible?



We have

- → a witty story
- → with a lot of pictures and
- hundreds of questions narrated by native speakers
- → who will also **tell you the correct answers.**

And you can listen together with your children and, for example, prepare dinner for them at the same time.



Come and taste a bit:



Kid Family English – a mobile app for children and beginners.

Sample 1: Take a look inside the app

Sample 2: How you learn with the app

More information: www.KidFamilyEnglish.com/mobile-app



The Kid Family Story – a printed comic book, complemented with audio recordings.

Suitable for intermediate to advanced learners.

Sample book: <u>Take a look inside the book</u>
Sample audio lessons: <u>Listen and answer the questions</u>
More information: <u>www.KidFamilyEnglish.com/english-</u>
comic-book



Do you want to learn more about this method? Read on:

Why use stories (and not textbooks) when practicing English at home?

- * Kids love stories and what you love is what you want to spend time with.
- * They will be more interested in stories rather than in dry articles with no plot and no emotion.
- **‡** They see that learning language is useful it opens doors to other worlds.
- * Stories are made up of complete sentences. And whole sentences are what children

 1) remember better;
 - 2) and they learn English grammar from them in a natural way.
- * There are plenty of stories already out there someone has created them for us, written them, told them. We just choose the ones we like and start using them.

What stories to choose?

- * Short stories with a simple structure, as these are the most suitable for intensive English practice.
- * Appropriate to their age and knowledge. It is desirable that they understand at least 80-90% of the content. Of course, pictures can help them understand at the beginning. Or you can.
- * Stories that engage, entertain, and delight children. Don't just rely on what you find for free on the internet for example, the fairy tale of Little Red Riding Hood won't impress your schoolchild.
- * Sequel stories are excellent, where children get to relate to the characters, become real to them, and want to know how their lives unfolded next.
- Remember that a story for children (native speakers) does not automatically mean an easy-tounderstand story for English language learners. Authors sometimes play with words in children's books and use less common words and turns of phrase to enrich the children's vocabulary. Your children, on the other hand, need the commonly used words the most in the beginning.

How to work with stories?

- **\$** Go deep. It's a pity to just read or listen to the story and move on.
- * Take your time. Go through the story sentence by sentence or picture by picture and ask questions.
- * Skip the hard questions like "What was the story about?" Ask children simple, specific questions.
- * Try to get them talking. A short answer of Yes or No is enough at first, but gradually you should encourage them to answer in full sentences.
- * 20 minutes of active time with a language is better than 200 minutes of passive time in front of a screen.

You already know Jim and his birthday cake, so let's take a look at a longer and more advanced demonstration where we will practice the past tense, among other things. (More questions and correct answers can be found in our book and audio lessons.)



Are they still on the tour of the farm or in the house?

What are they doing?

What does Wendy ask?

Are they eating a home-made pie?

Who baked the pie—Andrew or Rachel?



That's

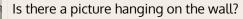
you in this picture? What did Andrew do?

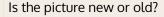
Did he cook the apples?

Did he wash them?

Did he cut them?

Who washed and cut the apples?

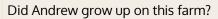


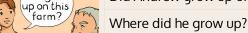


Does Natalie want to know who is in the picture?

Does Andrew say, "It is me. More than 40 years ago"?

Was this photo taken more than 60 years ago?





It's me

You grew

No, Iwas born in Colorado,

on a ranch

We had a big piece of land.

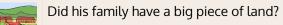
We raised

horses, cattle and sheep.

Was he born in America?

Did he grow up in a city or on a ranch?

Where were you born?

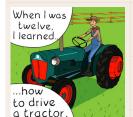


Did they grow fruit and vegetables on that big piece of land?

What did they do with the big piece of land?

Did they raise chicken there?

Does Andrew say that they raised money?



Did Andrew learn how to drive a tractor when he was twelve?

Did he learn how to drive a tractor at a young age?

How old was he when he learned how to drive a tractor?

Was he less than fifteen when he learned it?

Did he learn how to drive a bus when he was twelve?

Done, let's move on to the next story. Or not?

- * No, don't run away from the story for good; rather, come back to it again as soon as possible (preferably the next day) and ask the children the same questions.
- * Few things are remembered the first time. Occasionally, some things catch our attention a lot or are associated with a very strong emotion, but we need to hear most of the words over and over again before they become permanently stored in our active memory.
- * Moreover, it is one thing to understand the meaning of a word or sentence, yet it is another to be able to speak and respond swiftly—this is what children need to practice again and again to be able to communicate in English.
- * Want to make learning even more fun for children? Here are some tips:
 - Ask your children some funny questions now and then.
 - If you use our materials (app or audio recordings), you can race with the children to see who can answer the fastest.
 - Kids can liven up their answers by occasionally adding their own catchphrase to the correct answer e.g. I've already told you twice or He doesn't like chocolate cake but I love it.
 - And of course, praise and encourage the children and show them what progress they have made.

You want to try our recipe but have thoughts like:

Where do I take the time to learn with children like this?

Won't the kids get bored with me?

How can I do it if I don't speak English that well myself?

But what about my pronunciation—won't I teach them something wrong?

Use the materials that we have already prepared:



MOBILE APP







AUDIO LESSONS

The Kid family will be happy to accompany you on your adventurous journey toward better English!

E-shop - www.KidFamilyEnglish.com/e-shop-eng