

Practical examples of the use of ICT in CLIL subjects

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Público: Profesores de asignaturas AICLE o Inglés. **Materia:** AICLE o Inglés. **Idioma:** Inglés.

Title: Practical examples of the use of ICT in CLIL subjects.

Abstract

One of the objectives when teaching a language is to work with ITCs in class. The concrete situation is that the teacher does not use ITCs in class so much. The children usually use cardboards and other materials to elaborate their class works or projects. Therefore, is good idea to show them to use some applications related to ICTs. Also, the contents will be more clarified and learnt through the use of ICTs.

Keywords: Nuevas tecnologías, TIC, Primaria, Inglés, Digital, Metodología, Práctica, Ejemplos

Título: Practical examples of the use of ICT in CLIL subjects.

Resumen

Uno de los objetivos cuando se enseña un idioma es trabajar con TIC en clase. La situación concreta es que el profesor no usa TIC en clase tanto. Los niños suelen utilizar cartones y otros materiales para elaborar sus trabajos o proyectos de clase. Por lo tanto, es buena idea mostrarles que utilicen algunas aplicaciones relacionadas con las TIC. Además, el contenido será más aclarado y aprendido a través del uso de las TIC.

Palabras clave: Nuevas tecnologías, TIC, Primaria, Inglés, Digital, Metodología, Práctica, Ejemplos.

Recibido 2017-01-03; Aceptado 2017-01-09; Publicado 2017-02-25; Código PD: 080009

PROBLEM 1

This class is formed by 23 children in the fourth year of Primary Education. The students are learning three different classifications of the animals in the classroom. These classifications are related with what they eat, how they are born and if they have bones or not. Because of that, some students can find difficult to understand three classifications with three or two different parts in each one.

The possible reasons of this difficulty is that maybe they cannot understand why an animal can be or exist in three different classifications and maybe they do not understand that two different animals can have the same characteristics. Other reason could be that once they classify one animal, they forget to classify it in the others classifications, maybe because, related to the other problem, do not understand what they have to continue classification.

In order to solve those difficulties, the ICT's are a perfect tool, as they can offer different possibilities to facilitate the understanding and to make the student the center of the learning process. Furthermore, there are resources specifically designed for the problems we present here. For that reason, we have selected two:

- **Cacoo:** This resource allow us to create online diagrams collaborating in real-time. For that reason, it is a perfect tool as the will see a diagram with the classifications. Thus, the visual aid will be very useful in order to understand the classifications in a better way. On the other hand, these diagrams can be created online, with all the classroom working at the same time. Because of that, all the student will see their classmates working altogether and the final result will be a diagram with the animals classification made by the students themselves.
- **PHP Webquest:** This resource would be a tool for the teacher. Using this, it is possible to create a webquest and, after that, students can do it. The main objective of the webquest can be activities related with the distinction between the classifications. The teacher will have to focus the information they have to search in the problem they have related to the understanding of the classifications. Furthermore, this webquest can be done before using the resource called Cacoo, and use the information learned here in the diagram they have to create.

PROBLEM 2

Also, it is a good idea to introduce them to work their projects with two applications. These are Prezi and Zoho Show. From the expert's points of view, the use of ITCs in classroom allows higher levels of motivation and enhance in the learning and to get better marks. In addition, it also allows that the teacher includes ICTs in class since this was the initial problem.

The use of ITCs and these two applications are perfect as tools to solve difficulties beforehand mentioned. These applications allow new possibilities such as the knowledge of the applications themselves and an approach to ICTs. Furthermore, the students can successfully learn the unit: The animals.

The use of Prezi and Zoho Show is an innovative experience in the class. Through the use of these two applications, students will be promoted and enhanced to take part in the presentations and in the accomplishment of the works. Moreover, these applications are designed to avoid the use of cardboard, scissors and colors and introduce them in another reality. I do not think that children do not use this materials in class but they can use it in art class for instance.

CONCLUSION

Our main goals were to solve two different hypothetical problems in the CLIL classroom using as a solution the ICTs. We think that, using the programs explained before, students will be able to understand the content in a better way and they will be more familiarized with the new technologies. Furthermore, we wanted to create an environment in which the students would be able to be more independent and to work according to their needs. For that reason the ICTs are a perfect tool to achieve these goals.

On the other hand, some difficulties can arise during the implementations of the tools. First of all, we have to bear in mind that we are working with technology, and a lot of things can go wrong such as the internet not working, or the computers not turning on. For that reason the teacher should have always a plan B in order to solve that matter, because we cannot be slaves of the technology. Also, the students may be confused because they do not understand how to use a specific tool, so the teacher should explain carefully all the instructions before start using it. Despite this, some students can be still confused and some individual explanations should be carried out.

Nowadays ICTs are more and more popular and a lot of teaching methods are using them as a learning tool. However, most teachers are not eligible to use the new technologies in an appropriate manner, or simply they do not know how to use in the classroom, so the students will not be able to learn from the teachers in that aspect. In fact, many of these teachers must take courses or attend classes to learn how to use ICTs to catch up and complete their knowledge about this topic, in order to have a future in which the classrooms are an environment where ICTs are used in a responsible way.

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