

Case Study



Helping very young learners read English using Big Fun

Young Learners

THE CHALLENGE

Escuela Sara Sotillo is a public primary school in Panama City. It is part of the Panama Bilingue Program which is designed to develop a bilingual population ready to take on the jobs of the future.

Becoming part of the program meant that all students now have 10 hours of English lessons per week in the Kindergarten so the teachers need plenty of variety and fun activities to help the children learn.

At only 5 years old and in their first year at school, most of the children have yet to learn to read and write in their own language and have limited Spanish vocabulary, so having to fill 10 hours of English classes with appropriate material is a real challenge.

THE SOLUTION

In the Kindergarten at Escuela Sara Sotillo, the teacher, Damaris Castillo, chose Big Fun to motivate her children and support their learning English in all four skills.

With large fill in workbooks, and a wide variety of fun activities, Damaris felt Big Fun would be a perfect fit for her Kindergarten students. She uses the materials every lesson and has been trained by Pearson consultants to help her make the most of the material.

THE RESULT



Damaris has seen a lot of improvements since using Big Fun resources. She told us that:

- The phonics in Big Fun are excellent – children have learnt to read English before they can read in their native language, Spanish
- The children love using Big Fun – the content is perfect for them, and the topics repeat with regular reviews so children really learn
- The children love the songs and activities which she uses every lesson
- Big Fun has a great variety of lessons so the learning is practiced and deeply embedded

Teacher feedback:

“I like using Big Fun everyday – my students understand every class because it is easy to teach them in a fun way”

“The Big Fun resources increase the listening skills of my students”

“The children have learnt to read English before they can read in Spanish”

“The children love using Big Fun”

“The parents are happy as their children are speaking English at home”



Damaris with Big Fun



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