

Case Study



Making planning lessons easy, and saving time with Big English

Young Learners

THE CHALLENGE

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

At Escuela Sara Sotillo, as part of the program all students took 10 hours of English lessons per week, so the teachers had more lessons to prepare and learning time to fill. They have a wide range of ability in each group so need materials that support all their students and help them to progress.

THE SOLUTION

To help the teachers create lessons for so many learning hours, the school adopted the Big English program. This program consists of a comprehensive Teacher's Book with detailed lesson plans and ideas for engaging young learners.

The accompanying Student Books and Workbooks provide comprehensive coverage of all four skills, along with regular Review sections that teachers use to check whether students are learning. The teachers use the Big English materials every lesson.

Teacher feedback:

"Big English is great because I can follow the lesson flow"

"The ready made lessons save me time planning"

"We can see that students are making progress – they can clearly understand instructions in English and read and write in sentences (by grade 4)"

"I notice they (the students) are paying more attention"

"The materials lead the children to speaking English"

"The resources are very user friendly"



Teachers Lisette and Deylis



Escuela Sara Sotillo



THE RESULT



The teachers at Escuela Sara Sotillo love using the Big English materials. They have found that:

- The Teacher's Books help them plan effective lessons quickly and easily, saving them hours of planning time.
- The comprehensive nature of the material has given the teachers more confidence in teaching their classes at all grades.
- The pacing is ideal – the amount of work and difficulty of the material suits all their students.
- The students enjoy learning with Big English because the material is at the right level for them and the vocabulary is relevant.
- The students love using the workbooks as the students can write in them.
- The regular tests in Big English confirm that students are learning.
- Parents are happy with the progress their children are making – they are thrilled that they are speaking at home and using a wide range of vocabulary.



The school garden and classrooms



Learn more about Big English at
[english.com/bigenglish](https://www.english.com/bigenglish)