Winter - Spring 2011, Shaping Chile Networks  
University of Oregon, American English Institute  
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Action Plan Project for “Shaping the Way We Teach English”  

In this online course, we are focusing on new teaching techniques and resources. Choose one technique or classroom innovation that you would like to incorporate into your class, and develop an action plan (below) for accomplishing this. Please give as much detail as possible.

Date Created: 6/4/11  
Name of Action Plan Creator: Alicia Reyes Stuardo  

New teaching techniques or ideas I plan to use: Project based learning using technology and peer collaboration.

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<tr>
<th>My class Now</th>
<th>My Class in the future (My Vision)</th>
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<td>My class is a group of students who really want to learn, and they need a teacher who encourages them. They have many discipline problems; some of them (I would say most of them) suffer domestic violence; they have many problems out of the school and also bullying in the classroom, so they really need a new motivating environment in the classroom. The government does not consider English as a compulsory subject for this grade, so what I am teaching them is the fifth grade content, especially colors, numbers, introductions, and so on. The point is that I am teaching them with a whiteboard and a textbook, and I know there are a lot of motivating tools I can use, technology for example.</td>
<td>I think if I motivate them using technology and projects with this class, they are going to get involved with the learning process. Setting class rules through a behavior rubric elaborated with them will help to develop a new class environment, improving their behavior. Working with projects will require use of rubrics in order to let the students know in advance what they are expected to do. Peer collaboration will be very useful because by taking part in cooperative experiences, students are encouraged to learn by assimilating their ideas and creating new knowledge through interaction with others, and it will create a better relationship among them.</td>
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Class: 4th graders  
Number of Students: 25  
Language Level: Beginning
Additional Explanation from Action Plan Creator

In “My Class in the Future (My Vision)” above, you described a change you would like to see happen in your class. Provide additional information for the following related items. Write as though you are informing a person who knows nothing about your educational setting.

1 **The benefits I predict from this change:** My students will be motivated by the use of technology and projects, changing their attitude in the class. They will improve their behavior because the teacher and the students will set the class rules.

2 **Challenges I expect:** They will learn how to work in a collaborative way, considering their contributions as important as their peers’. They will respect their peers’ opinions considering them as a contribution to the class. In my opinion this is a little “big” step to stop bullying in the classroom.

3 **How I will address those challenges:** Working with projects, I will let them work in groups, monitoring with a rubric (they will know in advance), giving feedback, encouraging those advanced students to help their peers. Using technology in a way of motivating them with interactive whiteboards, using internet, and social nets. All of these resources are in my school, so I have to use them.

4 **Steps and timeline (schedule) for completing the change:** We work two periods in the week, In the 90-minute period we are going to work in the computer lab and in the library (where the interactive whiteboard is). If in some of the classes those places are not available, I can take my computer and the data projector to the classroom. In the 45-minute period we are going to share with the class the project in progress in order to improve it. They will check the rubric to accomplish the degree of the task expected of them. At the closing of the class we are going to comment on the class considering all the opinions. When monitoring the activities, feedback is very important, and also I am going to make sure they receive positive reinforcement in order to motivate them to improve their work and their self-esteem.

5 **How I will assess the degree of success of the change:** I will assess with a behavior rubric and projects. They will present them to the rest of the class and they will be able to listen to and respect all opinions. I will also assess their attitude to the English class and their comments on the class at the end of the term.