





Lesson plan

São Braz Zoo animal dominoes

Dominó de animais do Zoológico de São Braz

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1 Target Audience

It is an activity planned for children aged between 5 and 8 years old.

2 Length of this activity

The activity has an average of 10 minutes.

3 Subject

English as the main subject and Biology as an interdisciplinary subject.

4 Topic

Rescued Animals.

5 Genres

Board Game.

6 Skills

Speaking and image reading.

7 Teaching Objectives

- To learn vocabulary related to animals in English;
- To practice speaking in English through a fun game;
- To recognize some of the rescued animals sheltered in São Braz Zoo;
- To become aware of rescued animals in Santa Maria-RS.

8 Activity

The present activity consists of a dominoes game, developed for an Outreach Project called “English Palooza”, as part of the subject *Dimensões Políticas da Língua Inglesa “A”*, for the course of Letras Inglês, at UFSM¹. The game is supposed to be played by Pre and Elementary School students in order to promote immersion in English language. This immersion can happen when the teacher describes the game, speaks out loud the animals names or encourages children to repeat the vocabulary throughout the activity, using sentences such as: “This is a peacock.”; “Do you know any peacocks?”; “Which animal is that?”; “Look, a/an [animal]”; “We need a/an [animal], do you have a card with a/an [animal]?”

The dominoes cards have photographs of animals from São Bráz, a zoo located in Santa Maria that shelters local and foreign rescued animals. The photos were shared by the zoo manager by Whatsapp and they were taken by Arlei Antunes and Alice Ruatt, who are currently the photographers of the Zoo. The importance of bringing this topic to English teaching is to promote awareness about mistreated wild animals which are rescued and sheltered in São Braz Zoo and how the zoo helps and protects these animals. This perspective on language teaching is in accordance to Rajagopalan (2013), who defends that language policies should be related to each nation’s own geopolitical and cultural interests.

In Figure 1, there is an example of a dominoes card, while all the cards are attached at the end of this lesson plan. Before playing the game, the cards should be

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printed and cut. After playing the game, each child may receive a printed image of an animal to relate the numbers to the colors for coloring at home, such as the peacock illustrated in Figure 2. Extra help with colors might be necessary. The teacher may also let children choose the colors freely.

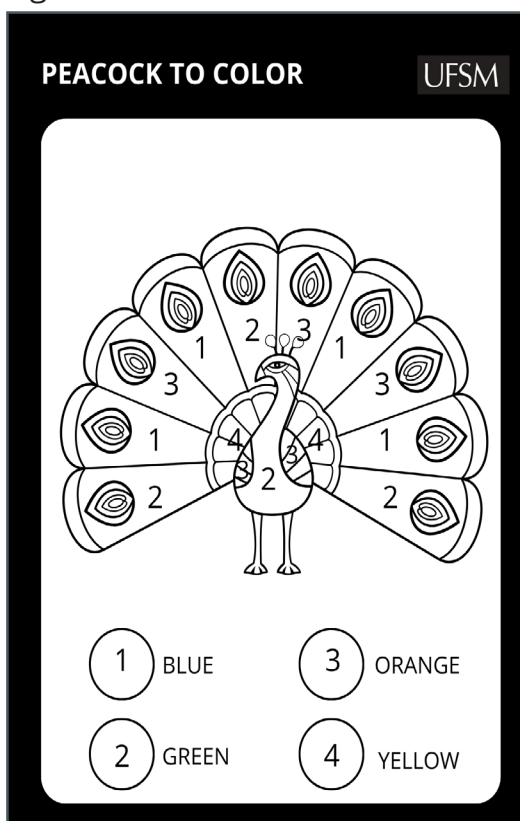
After Figures 1 and 2 below, there is Chart 1, where a detailed description of the activity was included.

Figure 1- São Bráz Zoo Dominoes



Source: Elaborated by the authors. Imagens taken by Arlei Antunes and Alice Ruatt and sent by whatsapp by the zoo manager

Figure 2 - Peacock to color



Source: Elaborated by the author

Chart 1 – Lesson plan's steps, aims and procedures

STEP	AIMS	PROCEDURE
STEP 1 1 min.	To explain the activity.	The activity can be explained in Portuguese or English, depending on the students' fluency level, and the teacher can ask if the children have already played with dominoes. If necessary, she/he can give an example of how to play it.
STEP 2 1 min.	To demonstrate how to play the game.	The teacher demonstrates how students should play the game.
STEP 3 8-12 min.	To immerse children in English conversation through playing the game.	The teacher can guide the activity through questions and commands, asking about the animals, telling their names and promoting language exposure.
STEP 4 1 min.	To talk about São Bráz Zoo animals and their importance, and to inform students about the zoo.	During the activity, the teacher can introduce the topic of rescued animals and explain the importance of São Braz Zoo.

Source: Elaborated by the authors

9 Didactic resources

- Printed game cards with pictures of the animals;
- Cardboard sheets (to paste the dominoes);
- Glue to paste the animal pictures on the cardboard;
- Table to play the game;

REFERENCES

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