

## Lesson Plan

### English as a Second Language

Grades K - 12

All About Me Bags: Developing Oral Language Acquisition Skills by Making Connections to Self

#### Learning Objective and Standards

**Learning Objective:** Students will share information about themselves to further develop their communicative competence along the oral language continuum.

**Goal 1, Standard 1** (as defined by TESOL – Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages) To use English to communicate in social settings: Students will use English to participate in social interactions and to build communicative competence.

#### Progress Indicators

- engage listener's attention verbally and non-verbally
- keep individual vocabulary journal for language learning
- test appropriate use of new vocabulary, phrases, and structures
- volunteer information and respond to questions about self and family
- elicit information and ask clarifying questions
- practice recently learned language in oral presentation

#### Organizational Framework

**Classroom:** Whole group; independently

**English Proficiency Level:** Variety of levels

**Language of Instruction:** English

#### Materials

Brown bags, pens/markers, magazines, and craft supplies

## Lesson Design

As a whole group, the teacher shares his “All About Me” bag, which is colorfully designed on the front with things that describe him. For example: A teacher who loves dogs, golfing, and reading would have a bag decorated with those things. As the teacher shares the contents of the bag with the class, he may generate a list, on the board, of the items he pulls from the bag.

As the teacher shares, students will hear, see, and observe the language being used for a purpose while learning more about the teacher. Students will then create their own bags answering the following questions: 1) What do you like to do? 2) What foods do you dislike? 3) Where do you like to spend time? 4) Who is a special person to you? 5) What are three words that best describe you?

Your questions can be anything, but should serve a purpose and should not be overly vague. For example: Instead of asking – “What do you like?” which is open-ended for students who are learning English, try, “What do you like to eat?” or “What do you like to eat for breakfast?” Be sure to model an answer that flips the questions: “I like to eat black beans and rice for breakfast.”

Students will break out to decorate their bags and answer the questions on paper. Provide students with a night or two to gather objects to put in their bag and make time for students to present their bags to each other. Be sure to communicate to families in the mode of communication that you have already established as being the best. Do not assume that your families either do or do not have internet access.

As an extension, students may create bags from the perspective of characters in a favorite book, or from people they meet in the school through interviews. This activity works well in centers or as a way to get students to work together and establish a relationship in literature circles.

Students may also want to invite family members to come and hear their presentations.

## Resources

- TESOL website of standards:  
[http://www.tesol.org/s\\_tesol/sec\\_document.asp?CID=113&DID=315](http://www.tesol.org/s_tesol/sec_document.asp?CID=113&DID=315)
- Ideas for “All About Me” recording sheets that support the surfacing of ideas (printer friendly) <http://www.enchantedlearning.com/themes/allaboutme.shtml>