ELT, CRITICAL LITERACY AND EMPOWERMENT: HIGHLIGHTS OF A BRAZILIAN PROJECT

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Agenda

✓ Aims
✓ Setting the context
✓ The projects:
  ✓ Theoretical background
  ✓ Highlights of the lessons
    ✓ 2015 PROJECT
    ✓ 2016 PROJECT
✓ Facing challenges
✓ What we have learnt from the experience
✓ Final Considerations
✓ Comments and questions
The aim of this paper is to share some innovative activities and materials developed in an ELT project at a nongovernmental organization in the northeast of Brazil, designed to teach underprivileged children and adolescents.
Teachers in initial education

Workshops → Socially relevant themes → Citizenship

7-18 year-old underprivileged children

Academia → Community

Integrated Learning
Integrating English, Music, Dance and Games: a innovative ELT approach to adolescents in both scholar and non-scholar contexts (2016)

Teaching English to Young Adults: English as a tool for Professional Development and Critical Literacy (2015)

Linguistic competences & empowerment
Theoretical Backgrounds

- Socially relevant themes
- Situated language learning (BARTON, HAMILTON & IVANIC, 2000; ROJO, 2009)
- Critical literacy (FREIRE, 1987, HAWKINS; NORTON, 2009)
- Where’s it? Who’s in it?
- Why the large red shoes?
- Is it common?
- Do you know anybody who has been in these shoes?

- What kind of text?
- Where? To whom?
- What does it say?
- Why?

- What would do?
- Would you help? How?
- Shall we alert the community?
Multiple ways to read the wor(l)d

Integrating English, Music, Dance and Games: an innovative ELT approach to adolescents in both scholar and non-scholar contexts (2016)
Games – Ludic Learning

Dice - Racism

Dice - Sexism

TPR activities

Bingo – Children’s Rights

Memory / Card games

Puzzles
Arts and Crafts – Multiple ways to express oneself

- Racism
- Children’s Rights
- Sexism
- Environment

- Children's Rights
- Environment
Challenges

- Heterogeneous Group
- Taboos
- Passiveness X Dialogic Engagement
- Pre-conceptions
today I'm thankful for

OPPORTUNITY

GOT MOTIVATION?
✓ Linguistic development aligned with a view of language as social practice used to act in the world

✓ Socio-political awareness and engagement: citizenship education

✓ An empowered community, willing and able to stand up for their rights


KRESS, G.; van LEEUWEN, T. Reading Images: the grammar of visual design. 2nd ed. LONDON; New York: Routledge, 2006
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