HOW TO ENGLISH
With Gav & Em
Free teacher practice card

How Can TEFL Teachers Use Alphabet Games to Build Vocabulary?

S06E01 | For teachers to adapt to their learners

Teaching focus

A letter gives learners a manageable starting point: name words beginning with A, or make the first sentence of a shared story. In S06E01, we open the A to Z season by discussing several alphabet games.

Our suggested routine

1. Choose one game and a clear language aim: vocabulary recall, questions or a connected story.
2. Select familiar words and manageable letters, then demonstrate a short round.
3. Give pairs thinking time and support before they contribute.
4. Relax a letter rule when it prevents meaningful communication.
5. Finish by using useful words or questions again and checking what learners want to keep.

After the attempt

What could learners do? What needed another model or a smaller step? Choose one useful adjustment and try the task again.

Notes for our next lesson

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Read the full teaching article and listen to the episode at howtoenglishpod.com