




TEACHING VOCABULARY TO YOUNG LEARNERS

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Who are young learners?

- ❖ are able to use language skills not even realizing them.
- ❖ do not realize what is fact and what is fiction sometimes.
- ❖ want to learn and are happy when they learn something, then they have to share it with somebody and they are proud that they learnt something, they can show off a little bit.

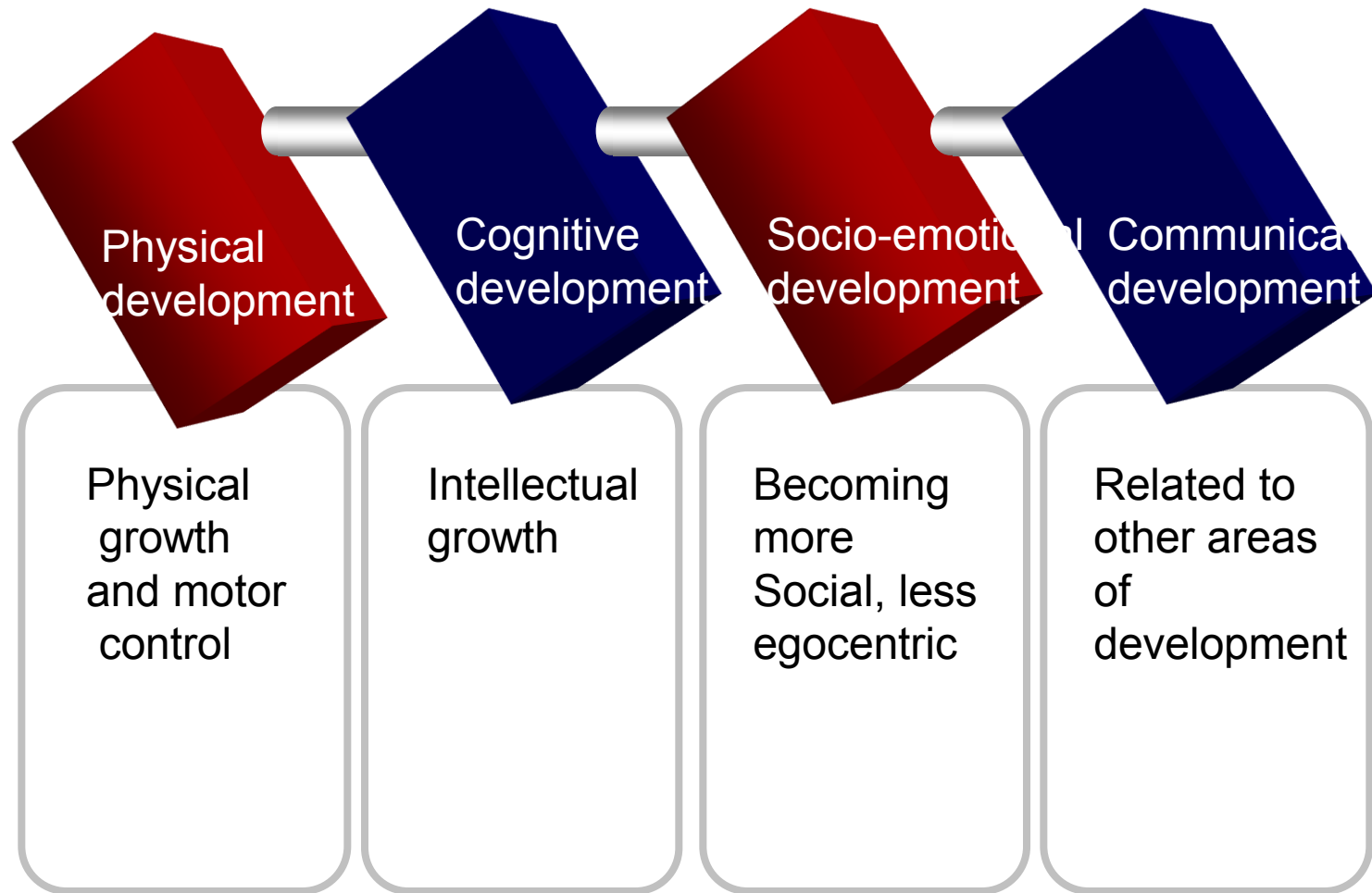


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- ❖ are happy when they can play.
 - ❖ love to share their experiences, they love when people pay attention to them and their talking.
 - ❖ are able to talk about what they are doing.
 - ❖ use imagination a lot.
 - ❖ can think, argue, discuss and are able to interact with both children and adults.
 - ❖ understand situations and through situations – they use several senses.

- ❖ often “teach” each other.
- ❖ love to be praised for what they have done and learnt, this is very important fact to keep their motivation.
- ❖ pretend they understand everything and they know everything



Who are young learners?

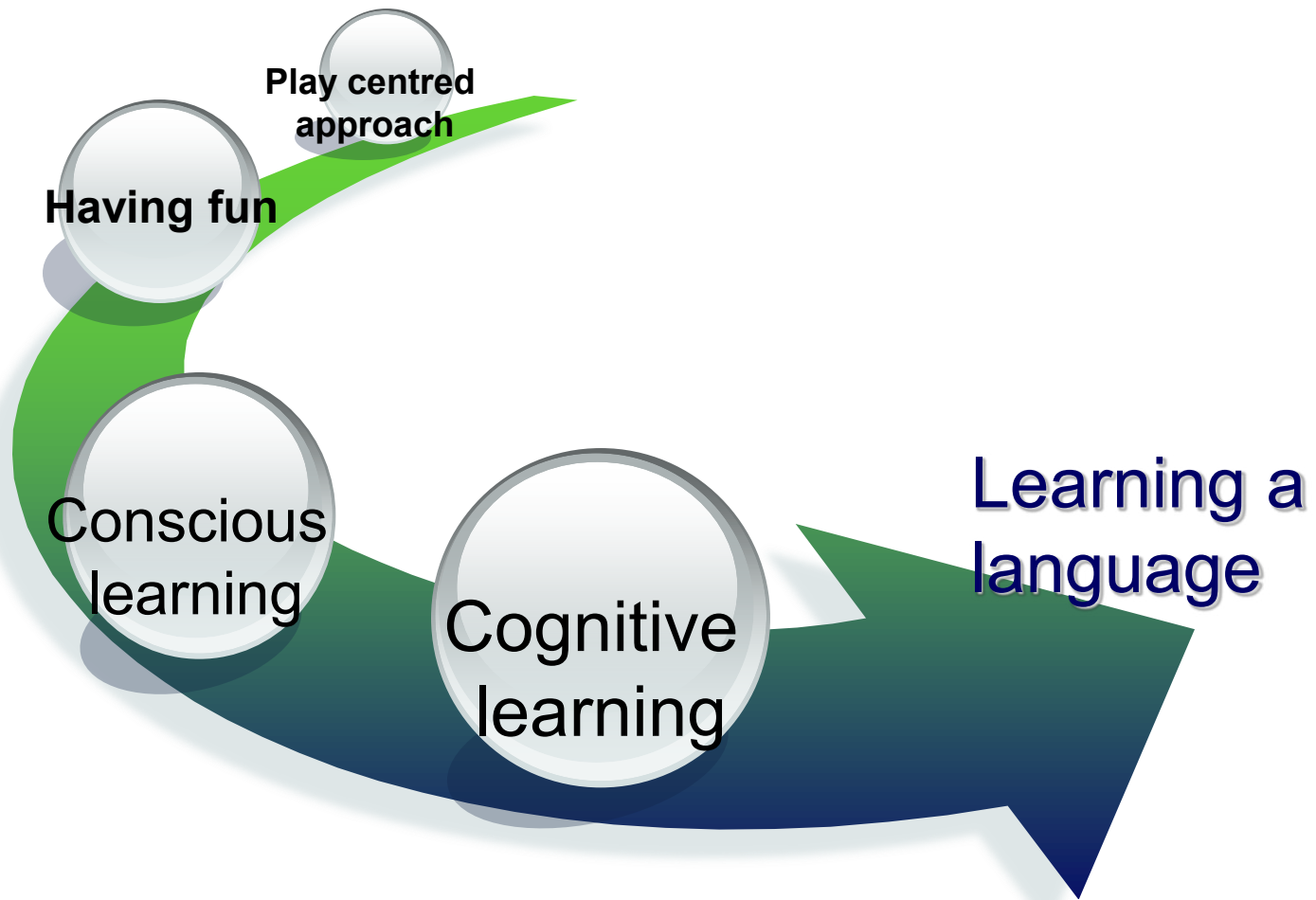


Children from 6 to 12 years of age

Who are young learners?

- ❖ Between the age of 6 and 12, the child develops cognitive and communicative skills.
- ❖ Children need input that is comprehensible, developmentally appropriate, redundant (repeatedly received from a variety of sources), and accurate.
- ❖ When they are exposed to a good model, they can learn a language without an accent.
- ❖ Children love to play and learn best when they have fun.

Who are young learners?



What is vocabulary?

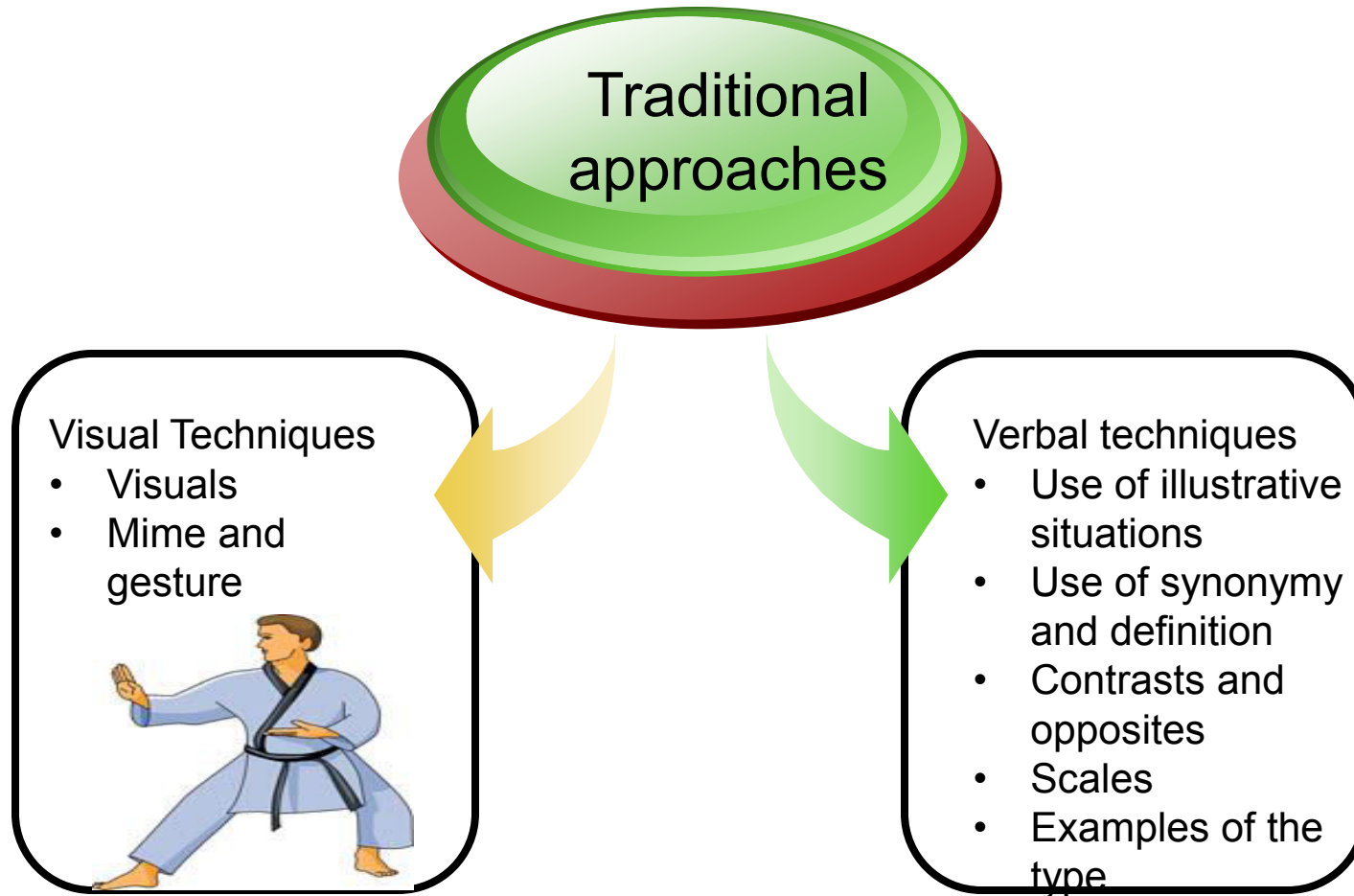
Vocabulary can be defined, roughly, as the words we teach or learn in the foreign language.

The learner while learning the vocabulary of a second language can come across several challenges such as developing strategies for coping with gaps in word knowledge, including coping with unknown words, or unfamiliar uses of known words.

Factors to be considered in teaching vocabulary

- ❖ the level of the pupils – beginners, intermediate etc.
- ❖ their familiarity with the words – have they come across these words or are they completely new?
- ❖ word difficulty – are the words abstract, are they easily pronounced, can we find similar words in the learner's native language etc.?
- ❖ can the words be easily demonstrated ?
- ❖ can pictures be used to elicit vocabulary?

Approaches used in teaching new items of vocabulary



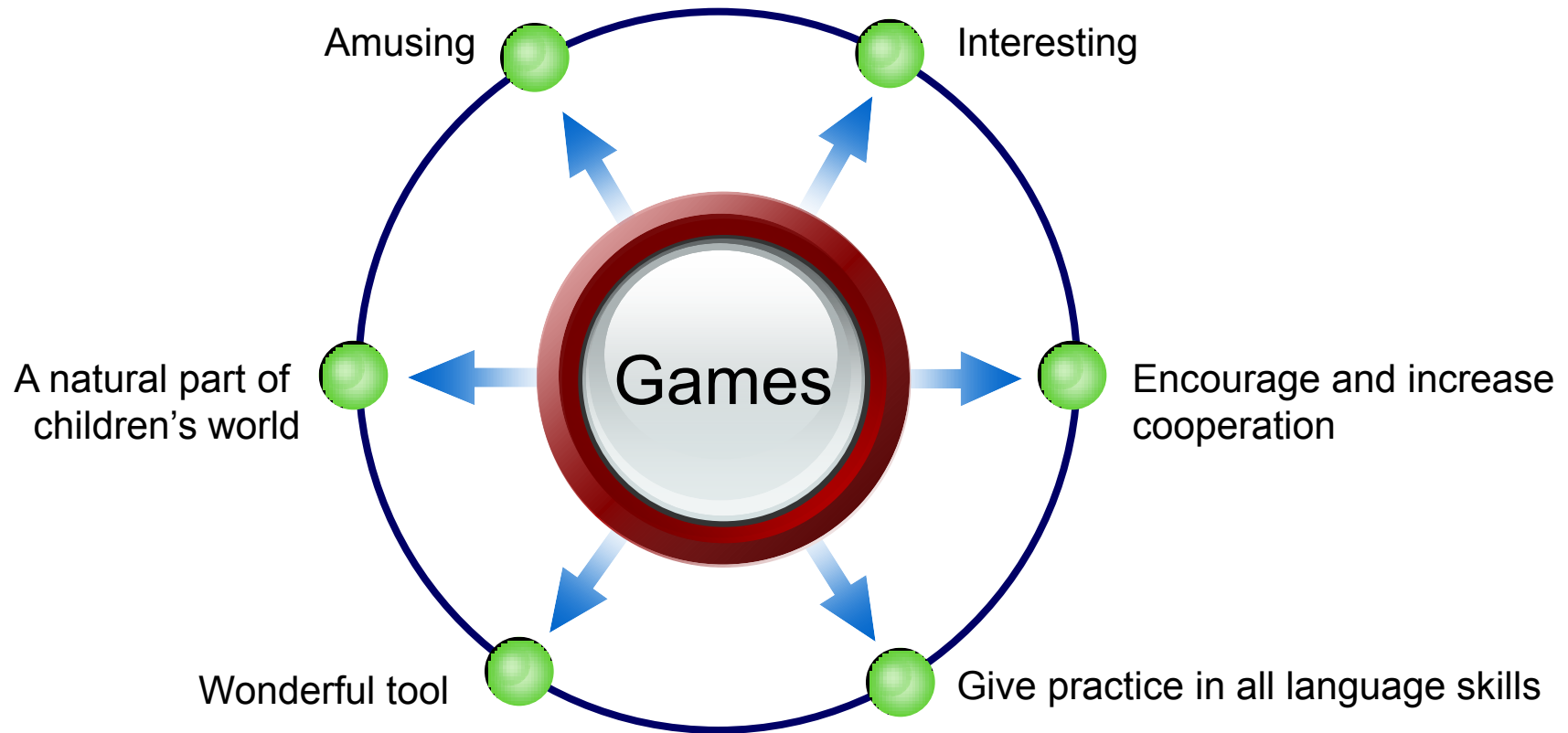
Approaches used in teaching new items of vocabulary

Student-centered learning

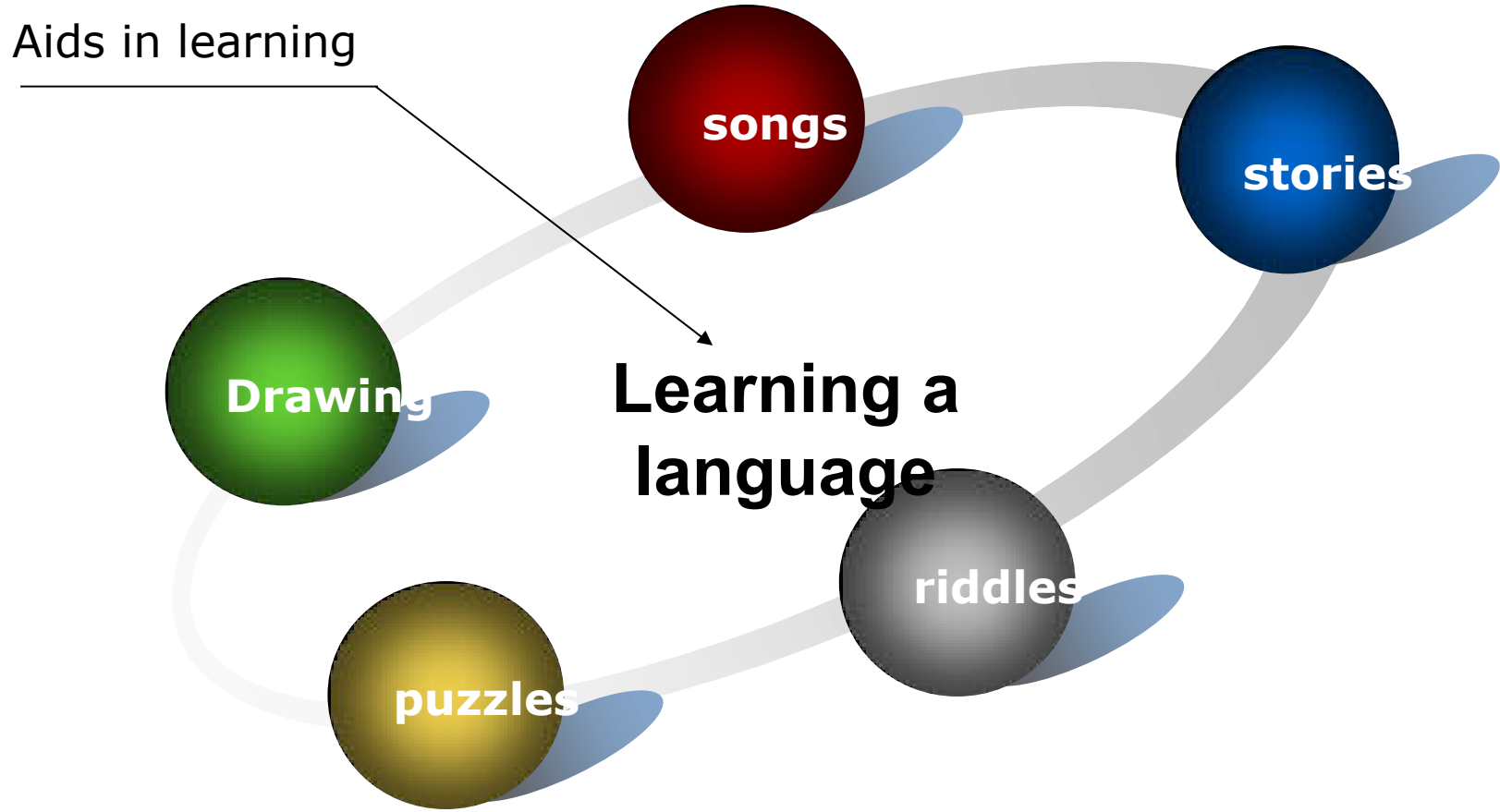
- ❖ Asking others
- ❖ Using a dictionary
- ❖ Contextual guesswork



Approaches used in teaching new items of vocabulary



Approaches used in teaching new items of vocabulary



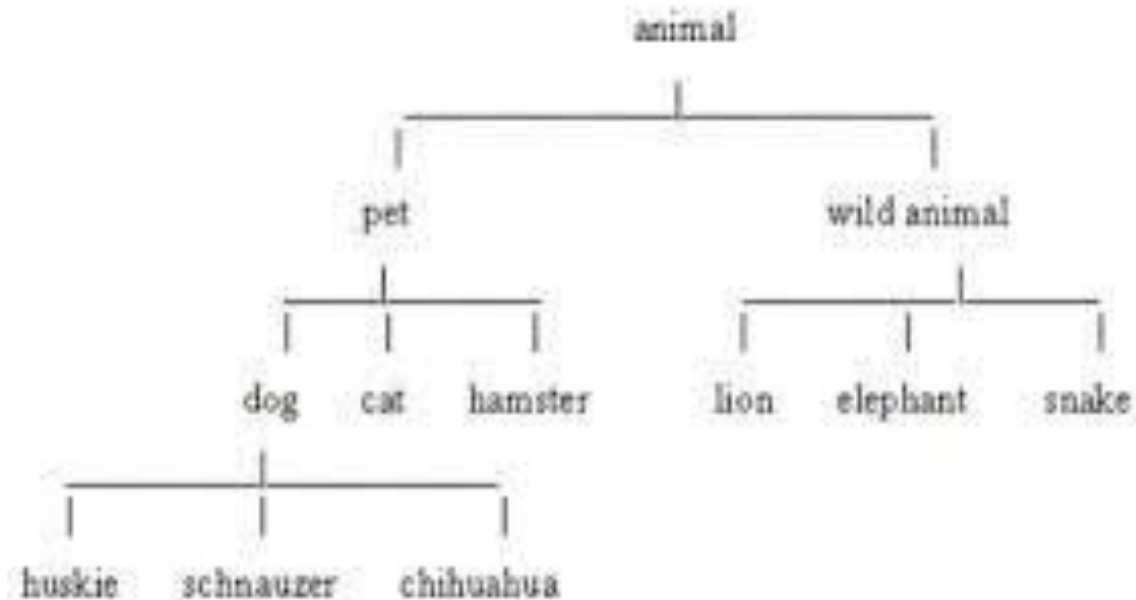
Materials

- ❖ Puppets
- ❖ Class mascot
- ❖ Paper dolls
- ❖ English corner
- ❖ Cardboard boxes
- ❖ Picture cards
- ❖ Card games
- ❖ Board games
- ❖ Word/sentence cards
- ❖ Word card display
- ❖ Word displays
- ❖ Books/reading card
- ❖ Calender
- ❖ Clock
- ❖ Web 2.0 tools



Grouping of items of vocabulary

Semantic fields



Grouping of items of vocabulary

Items related by topic

Farm animals



Grouping of items of vocabulary

❖ Items which are similar in meaning

Old-elderly-aged



Grouping of items of vocabulary

❖ Items which form pairs

old/young

buy/sell

lend/borrow



General Guidelines

- ❖ Treat children as individuals
- ❖ Value children and their work
- ❖ Catch them being good
- ❖ Keep expectations high



Teaching tips

- ❖ Play with the language
- ❖ Vary your activities
- ❖ Involve students as much as possible
- ❖ Make clear instructions
- ❖ Encourage cooperation not competition



Teaching tips

- ❖ Introduce English slowly with enjoyable activities.
- ❖ Support what you say with gestures, actions, movements, and facial expression.
- ❖ Help the children feel secure by repeating familiar activities, e.g. songs and rhymes.
- ❖ Create a stress free, interesting & fun approach



Teaching tips

- ❖ Repeat in English what children say to you in their mother tongue.
- ❖ Use a puppet to talk to in English. Tell the children the puppet can only speak English so they have to speak in English to the puppet. If a child speaks in his /her mother tongue to the puppet, you can recast and speak to the puppet.
- ❖ Use drawings and photos.
- ❖ Tell lots of stories using pictures for support



Thank You !

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