

After considering many places for my apprenticeship, I choose *Kids 2 Success* because it has creative ways of learning English, for example: Kids 2 Success holds an outbound activity every several months, such as visiting a restaurant or supermarket, going to a village to learn about nature, and so on. Furthermore, it has American curriculum so I think it will be interesting to work there to know further about the curriculum and the way of teaching at *Kids 2 Success*.

I become an English teacher assistant at *Kids 2 Success* Kopo. I choose teaching field because I am interested in children's world; that is why I want to use this apprenticeship as much as possible to get valuable experiences and broaden my teaching knowledge. Besides, I am motivated to improve my speaking and teaching ability.

Kids 2 Success is an English Institution, franchising from the USA which was established in Bandung in 2005. The first *Kids 2 Success* in Indonesia was opened in May 2005, located in Setrasari Mall. As there are many requests from the consumers and to facilitate the students who live in the South of Bandung, on 20th February 2006, *Kids 2 Success* opened its first branch at Taman Kopo Indah II Ruko 2A / 55.

This two-storey building has a very unique interior design which is suitable for children. The first floor is used as the reception centre, waiting room for the parents, and a playground for the students who are waiting for their class or being picked-up;

whereas in the second floor, there are three classrooms, where each room is equipped with air conditioner, whiteboard, projector, computer, chairs, and a table.

Kids 2 Success has already provided the material in the form of modules. The modules are divided into three levels, which are: Runners, Sprinter, and Jumper. The level division is based on the student's ability in English. Each student will be given one free trial of studying at *Kids 2 Success* before they actually enter the class, then the teacher will determine the level in which the student can start by observing the student's ability of English. There are ten modules per level and each module can be finished in 1 until 1.5 months, depending on the students' ability. If the student has finished one module, then he will be evaluated by doing the module test and if he passes the test, he will get a certificate.

The material for the class activities is not only limited to the modules provided. Teachers are free to use other materials as long as it is in accordance with the modules. Every several months, the 90-minutes class duration is not used to learn theories but is used to watch movies, in order not to make the students bored. The films are *Lazy Town*, *Air Bud*, *Mr. Bean*, *Madagascar*, *Flushed Away*, and other cartoon movies. Besides, by watching movies, students can increase their listening ability. Although the movies have high language level of English, the students are at least used to listen to English.

I started my apprenticeship in January 2007. I got four classes, which are one class on Monday, two classes on Friday, and one class on Saturday. The class activity starts at 2 pm until 6 pm, except for Saturday, which starts at 11 am.

During my apprenticeship, I help the teacher prepare the handouts and exercises before the class started and then I guide the students into their class. I also help the teacher explain the materials and supervise each student inside and

outside the class. If there are some students who do not understand the material, I will explain the material once again to those students after the teacher finish explaining the material for all students. I help the students to do their exercise by re-explaining the instruction, and guide younger students to concentrate during the class by admonishing the students to pay attention to the teacher and sitting near the students.

Moreover, there are some equipments that I used in *Kids 2 Success*, such as: whiteboard, projector, Mimio, DVD player, miniatures of real things (such as fruits, animals, and so on), toys, and computers. Those equipments are used for class activity.

During my apprenticeship, I have to use English when I interact with the students, as students at *Kids 2 Success* do not only learn English theories, such as grammar and vocabulary, but they also learn to practice their English by talking with others in English. The students at *Kids 2 Success* are taught how to socialize with other students and they are also taught to be disciplined, so I should encourage the students to participate in each activity and monitor them while doing the activity.

My dominant works are: helping the teacher prepare the material before the class started and helping the teacher explain the material to those who do not understand. I also supervise the students inside and outside the class and give reward stamp to the students.

Speaking, reading, listening, and writing are used when I do my apprenticeship at *Kids 2 Success*. Speaking is used for explaining the material, singing, and communicating with the students and *Kids 2 Success* staffs. Therefore, listening is used for listening to the students and the teachers, and also listening to

the films and songs. Writing is used in writing the vocabulary in the whiteboard, whereas reading is used in reading the exercises instructions and the materials.

I feel that I quite master English skills, grammar, and vocabulary. That is why I did not have many obstacles during my apprenticeship. However, I am not strict enough in facing the students. The students, who are mostly little children, are sometimes undisciplined, for instance: they run in the class, they scream, they do not do the exercises, and they keep talking with other students. At first, it was frustrating, but after about one week, I get used to it and I can handle them. I learn how to handle those situations from other teachers by observing them while they face those situations. According to my observation, if you want to attract students' attention, you have to act like children, your face have to be expressive, and you should not get angry easily, otherwise the students will not obey you.

I get so many valuable experiences during my apprenticeship. My English skills increase automatically by practising my speaking, reading, writing, and listening. I learn how to handle the undisciplined students. I also learn about class management, for example: students prefer sitting in circle to sitting in a line. In addition, I get a lot of new vocabularies, such as mobile, bolster, cushion, and so on. I also learn about children psychology, for instance: if the student is the only child at home, he tends to be selfish, he has to get all that he wants otherwise he will get angry. The same goes with the spoiled children.

However, teaching English is not as easy as I thought. Each child has his or her own characteristics, so at least, I have to know a little about how to handle the children. Fortunately, I learned children psychology in Psychological Approach to Teaching which is very helpful. I tried to use teaching methods that I acquired during

my study in Introduction to TEFL, Techniques for TEFL, and Psychological Approach to Teaching Classes.

I have some suggestions for *Kids 2 Success*. First, it would be great if *Kids 2 Success* hold some activities for the students, for instance story telling, speech, poem writing, and any other activities which are useful for increasing the students' English skills. Second, making a small library will be so much helpful for the students in case they want to borrow some English books.

Finally, I hope that DIII English Programme will continue the apprenticeship programme because it is very useful for knowing the real work environment. I suggest that DIII English Programme hold an apprenticeship's writing report guidance because my friends and I find some difficulties in writing the apprenticeship report.