

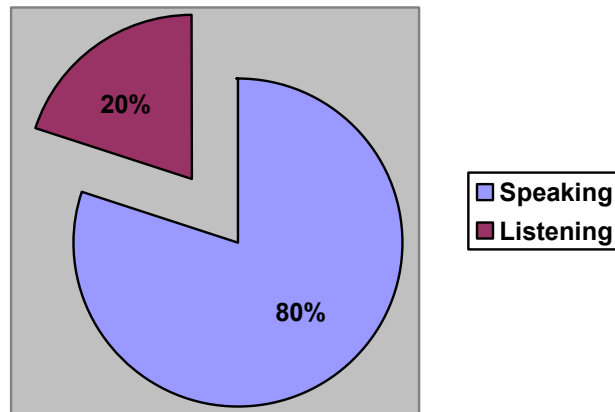
I choose to be a teacher in KIDS2SUCCESS because I love children and I want to teach them English in creative and innovative ways. I think children have more ability to learn English than adults. Then I found the creative ways to teach children in KIDS2SUCCESS. The teaching methods in KIDS2SUCCESS are different from other institutions. KIDS2SUCCESS uses computers to teach student. The methods are flexible and the teaching atmosphere is informal and relaxed.

KIDS2SUCCESS was established in 1999 in Canada. In 2000, KIDS2SUCCESS started to enter Asia and quickly developed in 2001. On July 2005, KIDS2SUCCESS was established in Bandung and was located at Setrasari Mall. Until March 2006, there have been 55 active students already. At the moment the new franchise is already open at TKI II ruko 2A/55, Bandung and also at Jl. Parujakan 113, Cirebon. KIDS2SUCCESS is an education programme designed to teach English as a second language.

To be a teacher assistant I am expected to be responsible, able to use English actively, love children, creative, and have a wide knowledge of the children. I also should dress neatly when I teach. As a teacher assistant, every Monday and Thursday I have to come to the office and assist the teacher in teaching the children. There are three until five kids aged between four and eight years old in the class. They are studying from 4.30 pm until 6.00 pm. Usually at the beginning of the lesson, I just sit and wait with the children while the teacher reviews the previous material. Then, the teacher starts with the new material. For instance, the teacher uses computer

animation with a character named Lullaby. Lullaby tells the children about the object in a living room, kitchen, bedroom, bathroom, and all the rooms in Lullaby's house. The film is projected to a whiteboard with a projector. When Lullaby tells his story, the teacher and I sit together with the children on carpet. After listening to Lullaby's story, the teacher reviews the object that has been mentioned. When the teacher is in front of the class, my duty is to watch over the children. Sometimes there are some children who start to get noisy and walk around the classroom, so I have to get them back to their seats and continue to join the lesson. I will not force them if they do not want to sit, because it would affect their behavior. If they do not do anything disturbing, I just sit together with them. Then, the teacher and I would be sitting in front of the class and ask the children one by one to repeat the object in Lullaby's house until they memorize it. At the end of the lesson, there is always a game like cutting pictures and sticking pictures, or singing. The game itself is related to the lessons that day. For example, the children are asked to cut pictures of the objects in Lullaby's house and name it. If there are children who forget the name of the object, I try to help them remember it by giving some clues like one or two words. I let them colour the pictures of the object with the colours they want, and I also help them colour the pictures if they need my help. Sometimes there is a child who goes out of the classroom if she started to feel bored. If this happens I go outside to get her and I ask her why she goes out. Then, I just talk about anything she wants. After a while, I ask her to get back into the class and finish the lesson. Sometimes before starting the lesson, I promise I will give some chocolates or glowing stickers to good children. That makes the children try to be the best in the class. After the lesson has finished, I accompany the children until their parents pick them up.

The percentage of the English language skills used during my apprenticeship in KIDS2SUCCESS is presented in the pie chart below:



Speaking is used when teaching students to repeat the sentences or the names of certain objects in English. Listening is used when I monitor the children when they repeat sentences or the vocabulary taught.

My strength in teaching English is my pronunciation. When I speak to the children, they can easily differentiate words that have similar sound such as “vase” and “face” or “plant” and “plane”. Therefore, I think pronunciation subjects given in D3 programme for English help me in doing my apprenticeship. On the other hand, I have limited vocabulary that makes it difficult for me to give thorough explanation when the children ask something.

After doing my apprenticeship, I notice that working as a teacher is not as easy as I have thought before. Now, I have more respect for teachers and lecturers, since I have experienced how hard it is to do their work. Still, this is a valuable experience and I feel very lucky to have the opportunity to do this apprenticeship.

My suggestion for KIDS2SUCCESS is for the teachers to keep their good methods in teaching. In addition, the institution should improve direct

communication between the manager (Mrs. Silvi) and the teachers. Sometimes I need something to discuss with her and I think it would be better if we can talk directly face to face than do it by telephone. The institution also needs to pay more attention for the cleanliness of the toilet. I also would like to suggest D3 English Programme to give more time for the student to choose the place for their apprenticeship since the preparation for apprenticeship starts at the end of the final examination, while at the same time some institutions only give three more days or even they have already ended the time for applying.

