

THRASS ACCREDITED COURSE, KASANE, BOTSWANA, 18-19 FEB, 2009

A mind-blowing experience. Although a little confusing at times – being a second language English speaker, I was introduced to a very different approach for learning English. It has been exciting to learn new ways of learning and teaching and THRASS is the way to go for us. Laola was very good and managed very well to get us all motivated. I hope the enthusiasm I feel the teachers are showing will last! Thank you for coming and sharing THRASS with us.

Laola was very confident and explained the 10 steps of THRASS very eloquently. The ideology of THRASS will promote life-long learning. I have learnt more about the importance of sounds (phonemes) in giving spelling choices rather than one letter makes one sound!

I have really enjoyed this workshop. The information will be helpful for teaching my little ones English. It will be a wonderful tool to enrich their vocabulary as well as improve literacy and spelling skills. I like how the program uses kinaesthetics to teach the concepts of reading and writing and spelling. The children will have a fun and enjoyable experience as well as learning many helpful skills. I am excited to start this new approach and improve the teaching techniques I have been using. I think it will take some practice to familiarise myself with the method but will prove very useful once I have mastered the system.

I learnt English as a second language in the early years after independence, so it was a rigid environment. When I saw how THRASS does everything to give a child a good start in life, I was impressed. I wish it was possible to have refresher courses now and then and not a once in a lifetime. Mrs Altschul was clear to understand and she made the experience enjoyable. I teach several subjects and believe I can also help the English teachers reinforce the THRASS programme.

Mrs Altschul did a wonderful job of teaching us. The course is superb. It has given me ideas of how to help children with spelling and writing. Mostly it is a good method to teach spelling, reading and writing at the same time. The charts are very helpful in teaching the correct sounds in given words and letters. It is great to have charts that are easy to use and thus saving on time. The course is great and I really would like to do more courses to help me help the children do better. Thank you for a course that goes beyond Letterland and does more to improve both the teacher and children.

I am very happy for having the chance of learning THRASS for teaching reading and spelling skills. It is a very good way of learning how to read and spell because most of English words are mis-spelt in terms of graphemes and are not properly pronounced as in phonemes. THRASS has a good way of approaching both phonemes and graphemes.

A very thorough and informative course. The presentation was engaging and appealed to every type of intelligence (i.e. linguistic, visual etc.) The stages were explained clearly and Mrs Altschul was patient as we tried to understand the concepts. She taught us well as a group and helped us each as individuals. I feel that THRASS will be an invaluable tool for teaching first and second language speakers English. It combines well with other subject areas and I believe will facilitate truly holistic education. It was wonderful.