

## **THRASS INTRODUCTORY PRESENTATION, NORTHAMPTON, OCT 16, 2009**

An informative, exciting session that has taught me a lot! I will definitely be using this both for a child I tutor and when I get the opportunity to in a classroom. I am passionate about phonics, reading, writing, speaking and listening and think this a fantastic way to go!

Loved this session, was a really exciting, fresh and new way to teach and think about phonics!

Incredible! Very enjoyable from start to finish. It has helped with my knowledge of phonics and phonics teaching. It was well presented, very interactive and exciting. I would definitely use THRASS in school.

Very enjoyable and helpful. I look forward to using this when reading with my own children and those I teach in the future. I only wish I had this knowledge at the early stages of my children's reading.

Very interactive, allowing us to learn and have fun with the resources throughout the presentation.

A tremendously useful session. Some useful ideas for the early years about how to start. Very interactive. Alan is such an inspirational and motivational speaker – phonics has never been so exciting!

Very enjoyable. A great help in understanding phonics and the good practices of teaching phonics.

Extremely useful and it gave me a completely different view on how phonics can be taught. I loved the use of songs in phonics teaching and found it inspiring. I will try and use THRASS in my own teaching.

Excellent presented, extremely informative and enthusiastic. A pleasure to attend and learn. A very sensible programme, with untold possibilities. Very good links between sound and spelling.

A brilliant session which was very interesting. The principles behind the programme made such a lot of common sense. My child has dyslexia and he spells words the way you would sound them out. Listening to you made it clear that his problem is he only recognises the sounds. I will be sitting with him to explain and use the resources provided. I think it was inspirational.

Really useful and has changed the way I view phonics teaching through highlighting the problems with current practice. I definitely would like to implement this in my own teaching, using these resources as they teach in a fun yet sensible and logical way.

I really enjoyed the session and was very pleasantly surprised by the potential of phonics; when I have come across it in schools or English sessions before, it has been very stale. This was quite the opposite.

Very enjoyable and worthwhile. I have learnt a lot. It has made phonics clearer and more accessible. All of what I have learnt and seen today, I will try and use them within my school placements.

I enjoyed this thoroughly. The enthusiasm with which the lecture was taught kept my focus throughout and the content was interesting and enjoyable. I hope to use THRASS in the future.

An amazing session. I was so intrigued to find out about this scheme, really suggest it is compulsory in every school. This was a very interesting and exciting interactive session. I particularly enjoyed hearing about the teaching in South Africa, as Africa is somewhere I want to take my career once qualified.

Really interesting! Very well delivered – enjoyable! Given me lots of ideas to take into schools and I now feel more confident in dealing with phonemes and graphemes. I support THRASS principles fully.

Very good and delivered in an exciting way, which didn't get boring. Thoroughly enjoyed and agreed with the THRASS way of teaching and the principles.

A valuable and interesting way of teaching children. THRASS is a fun and exciting experience for children to explore.

I really enjoyed this session and think the approach is just the right one to use in the early years. We will be able to use the songs. I could see that the children were learning the sounds and letters really well through singing and they loved it. The way you teach phonics makes more sense than the way we have been taught but I think we will be pushed to use the charts in schools because most of them use other methods, which they are used to. However, I will definitely encourage it.

Perfectly pitched for students. Loved the way in which you placed phonics right at the centre of language in its widest sense – sharing, talking, enjoying, communicating.

It was absolutely brilliant to learn about THRASS and the session was very interesting and enjoyable and definitely inspired me.

Really informative. It completely grabbed my attention and taught me the difference between phonemes and graphemes, which I struggled with before. Your work is so inspiring and I hope that when I graduate, I can incorporate this into my lessons or with my children in the future.

Very informative and gave me a completely different outlook on spellings and how to teach spellings to children. Loved, loved, loved the songs and can't wait for an opportunity to use them in a future placement. This should be made compulsory within the curriculum!

Great music, songs! I like the different music styles! Very enjoyable session. Alan is a great speaker!

Very effective and interesting. Helped me understand phonics a lot more clearly and different ways to introduce it to children, in a fun and exciting way. The Sing-A-Long book will be used when I go on placement. Alan was very enthusiastic all the way through, gave off good vibes for the program.

Brilliant – very engaging and interesting. I would love to see the resources used in school and the videos from South Africa were really good.

Very interesting and informative. I enjoyed learning about THRASS and feel I have picked up a lot of useful tips even if I am teaching in a school that doesn't follow the programme. Your teaching style is engaging and gripping.

Useful and interesting, I feel sorry for those who missed out! I now feel very confident using and teaching phonics, which is very different to how I felt before. The practical suggestions were very useful and the resources are fantastic.

Very interesting and useful. It was fun and interactive. THRASS is very useful and I'm sure I will incorporate this into my teaching where possible.

Brilliant. It is fun and interactive. I look forward to using some of the techniques in school. They are interesting and I can see how this method is very beneficial.

Very interactive and enjoyable. I felt that I have really learnt a lot about phonics.

Very informative and interesting. Can't wait to use in schools.

The session demonstrated the current holes in the approach to phonics teaching. It has an effective teaching approach that helps make sense of the difficult rules of the English language.

Really helpful and fun! It makes phoneme and graphemes fun to teach and made simple! I love the fun songs to help teach the children. I have really enjoyed this session.

Session was very informative and gave a realistic and more suitable approach to phonics and spelling. It was thoroughly enjoyable and will be extremely useful in the future.

I really enjoyed learning about THRASS. I think it is a brilliant resource and I am looking forward to using it. The session was very informative and interesting. I am really impressed with the system.

Enjoyable. It really helped explain how phonics could be taught and the resources were really good. I think that the big books and music would make it more enjoyable for most children.

Very informative and fun! You have influenced my teaching practice. I now have lots of new ideas of how I can teach phonics to children.

This has changed my practice. I would love to use this in my future teaching career. I have learnt about the 44 sounds and how children can learn them. They can learn in a way that is active and fun.

Well presented, good teaching ideas and challenge of phonics teaching methods.

Really enjoyable. I have experienced THRASS at Oxley Park Primary, Milton Keynes, in my last placement, and I have seen how well it works. It is great to have training in such a fantastic scheme.

Interesting and well-presented. It is much clearer to me now! I will definitely go on the website.

Excellent – gave a great insight into other areas of teaching and learning, supported well with pictures, sounds and songs.

Helpful and interesting as it's an approach I have not heard of. I found the session interactive and fun for the children. I really liked the idea of the Sing-A-Long. Although found the chart confusing.

Like the idea of THRASS and can see how it is a good alternative to other phonics systems. Enjoyed the session and liked that it was very interactive.

Interesting and active, showing a different way to learn letter names with the associated letter sounds.

Really good session. It gave me another way of looking at how teaching reading, writing and spelling can be done in schools. Everything that was said made sense, and was relevant to what I have experienced. What I have learned was really useful.

Very valuable and inspiring. It has made many things clear that will support my future teaching and allow me to teach in a fun manner that children will respond to.

Well presented by someone with excellent subject knowledge. Very informative with useful insights. Certainly has interested me in this programme.

Really interesting. I have learnt a lot and will take some knowledge to my placements. The session was upbeat and well planned. The resources were amazing.

This session was really interesting and I thoroughly enjoyed it! I learnt a lot about THRASS and feel it is a very good way to teach the children. I am looking forward to teaching it.

Really fun session. Learnt lots of interesting activities/techniques. Brilliant! Really nice videos and fantastic resources.

Very interesting and enjoyable. It was very interactive and informative. I learnt a lot from this session and found it very beneficial.

Before the session I wasn't very confident about teaching phonics because I didn't feel that my subject knowledge was strong enough. Now I actually know more about phonics and some excellent ways in which I could teach them. The brilliant resources are perfect aids for all phonics lessons.