**Teaching Young Learners: The Importance of voice**

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ABSTRACT

This workshop will look at the imporatnce of voice in teaching young learners. It is based on an actual lesson given to fourth year students on a Teaching Young Learners course. It will take as its premise a quote from a British voice coach: "Everyone comes into this world with a beautiful voice but then it becomes blocked. The natural voice wants to come through but it gets stopped by the habitual voice." Participants will be led through a series of drama techniques which focus on the voice (taken from Maley and Duff 2009). These will then be applied to a children's chant. After which the participants will be asked to incorporated the chant into a lesson plan. The feedback discussion will focus on the appropriacy of using the activities both in training teachers and in teaching young learners.