



14 SCHOOLS IN BARRANQUILLA
11 IN BOGOTÁ



Transforming LIVES

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COLOMBIA



HOW WELL ENGLISH SOUNDS TO US

EduFinance is bringing to Colombia the English learning using the methodology developed by Educators International. 25 schools, participants in Opportunity's Education Quality Improvement program, are being benefited from this pilot project. 39 teachers and directors received training from two experts: Charlotte Cashman and Mandekh Hussein, who traveled from United Kingdom for this purpose.

FAST, EASY, AND BY PHONE

English as a Second Language is an explicit and mandatory item in Colombia's educational policy and a quality standard. To have English skills is becoming more evaluated to obtain a job or to access college or university. This is why Colombia has the objective of reaching a bilingual school population. This challenge is especially difficult for that part of the Colombian society in which access to education is precarious. This part of the society that is ignorant in a second language is the one that loses social mobility and the one for which Phonics by Phone is targeted for.



EduFinance proposal is to learn English through sounds (this method is used in England to teach how to read and write). With this method children don't memorize, they understand, and have fun! The method adopts the technology with an app, Phonics by Phone, which offers didactic resources to teachers and a tool to evaluate independently to each student.

The method was transferred to the Colombian teachers in a training session that finalized using the app in the classroom. Considering the difficulties that the teachers themselves have with the English language, the education experts adjusted the methodology to the Colombian context. From the trained group, 11 teachers have assumed the role of mentors. They will guide the development of the methodology on pre-school and primary school students from Bogotá, Barranquilla and its surroundings in order to assess the success and pertinence of the methodology, which has the potential to become a teaching reading and writing model in both languages.



WHAT TEACHERS THINK



It proposes us a new way of learning through which children can learn about phonetics deeply and with it, they will progress easier in learning English. For the school it is a significant progress as we are going to be able to offer our children a more clear understanding of their approach to a second language. Parents have liked a lot this methodology and this is allowing us to bring them closer to the teaching process.

Amneris Linero Meléndez
Principal
Centro de Atención Integral Superar
Barranquilla



From an educational perspective, it offers us the guidelines and bases to teach the English phonetics, and with it we can learn the sounds of letters and the pronunciation of words. It is a didactic and playful way, which does not saturate the child with the grammar, taking him to a faster way of learning English.

Diana Marcela Beltrán Guzmán
English teacher
Liceo Psicopedagógico El Paraíso Infantil
Usme, Bogotá



This is an innovative methodology in the teaching of English as a Second Language. It has a well-structured didactic and is useful not only for English learning but also for the mother tongue learning. As a teacher, this experience has made me reflect upon my own professional training, especially in relation to my second language, English, and has also moved me to strengthen my knowledge of it.

Bridy Patricia Ahumada González
Pre-school teacher
Colegio Francisco de Paula Santander
Galapa, Atlántico



It is very positive for us to participate in a workshop that supports schools as ours on the process of teaching English as a second language. We have already begun to train our teachers in this methodology and we started our first classes, where we have seen great motivation in the children for the language, curiosity and participation. With surprise, they are discovering other skills in themselves.

Aída Liliana Barreto Nova
Principal
Sociedad Educativa Hormiguitas Felices SAS
Suba, Bogotá

LEARN TO READ, READ TO LEARN

554

CHILDREN

are part of the pilot program for English learning implemented by EduFinance Colombia.



275

CHILDREN

in Barranquilla, Galapa, Soledad and Malambo.



279

CHILDREN

in the districts of Bosa, Ciudad Bolívar and Usme, in Bogotá.



Each child's learning is followed up by the Phonics by Phone team in London.



Through the phone, teachers send the planned assessments during the year.