



Experience Mex-ECO Teaching Tips:

The following list has been compiled to offer some advice for volunteers taking part in teaching English projects with Experience Mex-ECO, we also recommend that you look for more resources online and talk to other teachers or ex-volunteers.

- Try learning some basic Spanish; although you will be teaching in English it is very helpful to learn some Spanish in order to explain yourself when necessary (you will rarely be left without an English speaking teacher).
- Most people are nervous before their first lesson. Remember that the students are really interested in having you there and want to converse with you in order improve their conversational English.
- Be patient!
- Most of the time there will be a qualified teacher in the classroom with you, who will lead the lesson and give direction. Always have extra learning activities planned just in case your students finish their work before the end of the lesson. These could be revision of areas you have already covered or connected to the current lesson, which you will know the content of in advance.
- A brief summary/revision of the previous lesson at the beginning of each lesson helps the students remember what they have been taught.
- Try to stick to speaking in English as much as possible; the main advantage of having a native English speaker in the classroom is to hear a lot of spoken English and get used to how it sounds.
- When using repetition learning (asking the students to repeat words after you), make sure that the same students are not always answering; it is easy for some people to get away without joining in and therefore fall behind.
- Using props such as pictures, maps and games is a great way to teach both children and adults; it makes the lessons more fun and gets the students' attention. Once the students have a good basic knowledge of the language, role plays and presentations are good ways of getting them to practice their oral skills.
- Have confidence in yourself!
Some people learn quicker than others, but generally learning a new language takes time - do not expect to see results overnight. Just having you in the classroom and hearing spoken English helps a great deal in the learning process.