

Teaching Scenario: Puppet Pals 2

Main Goals:	Training <i>speaking</i> skills, training media literacy
Time:	5-6 lessons (Note: The teaching scenario is created for the first use of Puppet Pals. If the students already know the app, the lessons can be reduced to 2-3 lessons. For further details, see the lesson plan below)
Learning Focus:	<i>Speaking</i> skills, <i>listening</i> skills
Preparation:	Installation of Puppet Pals on mobile device, become familiar with the app
Technical Requirements:	Buy app, iPad (iOS, alternative app for Android: Voki)

Recommended Application/Tool(s): Puppet Pals 2

Puppet Pals 2 is an app that makes it easy for children to create their own cartoons and as a next step add recordings to the cartoon.

Students can create an individual, interactive puppet show by choosing different settings, characters, tools and background music and then record their voice. Afterwards, the videos can be presented in class.

In English classrooms, Puppet Pals 2 (School Edition) can be used in order to help students practise their English language speaking skills (fluency, pronunciation, intonation, correctness, etc.). Possible teaching scenarios are: digital storytelling, production of instructional videos or using it as a motivating tool to practise dialogues (i.e. from the textbook).

Advantages:

All students...

- ... get the chance to speak
- ... gain confidence by assuming another personality (cartoons)
- ... train their listening competence: classmates take turns watching their videos
- ... have the opportunity to rehearse and repeat the recordings
- ... have the possibility to work individually, in pairs or in groups

Disadvantages:

- App offers only German instructions
- costs about 6€
- Only available for iOS (alternative for Android: Voki For Education (full version about 10€))

Lesson Plan: Year 5-6

- Lesson 1:** In order to get familiar with the app, the students are supposed to work with worksheet 1 “How To Do Puppet Pals 2”.
- Lesson 2+3:** The students get together in groups and work on their texts. According to the *Fachanforderungen*¹ (p. 28-29) possible topics are: family, hobbies, our world in ... years, etc. In order to remember all the important steps that are necessary to create a puppet show, the students use worksheet 2 “Create Your Own Puppet Show”. It is important that the teacher looks at the text before the students record it.
- Lesson 4:** The students practice their corrected texts with one another.
- Lesson 5:** The students record their texts and produce their show.
- Lesson 6:** The students present their show in form of a gallery walk: all iPads are on the tables and the students can walk from one iPad to the other and watch the shows of their classmates. In the end, the students can vote for the best show.





Lesson Plan: Year 7-10

- Lesson 1:** In order to get familiar with the app, the students work with worksheet 1 “How To Do Puppet Pals 2”.
- Lesson 2:** The students get together in groups and work on their texts. It is important that the teacher sets up a running time limit (no longer than 3 minutes) before the students start writing their texts. According to the *Fachanforderungen*¹ (p. 28-29) possible topics are: idols, exploring the English-speaking world, historical events, etc. It is important that the teacher looks at the text before the students record it.
- Lesson 3:** The students practice their corrected texts.
- Lesson 4:** The students record their texts and produce their show.
- Lesson 5:** The students present their show in form of a gallery walk: all iPads are on the tables and the students can walk from one iPad to the other and watch the shows of their classmates. In the end, the students can vote for the best show.

¹ Ministerium für Bildung und Wissenschaft des Landes Schleswig-Holstein (Hg.). 2014. *Fachanforderungen Englisch Allgemeinbildende Schulen: Sekundarstufe I Sekundarstufe II*. Kiel: Schmidt und Klaunig.

How To Do Puppet Pals 2

1. Open Puppet Pals 2 on your iPad and try to do the following steps!

1. Choose a setting! → 
2. Choose a character! → 
3. Mix heads and bodies to create a totally new character!
4. Practice how to move your characters:
 - a. Move the right arm!
 - b. Move the left leg!
 - c. Walk and jump!
5. Choose some extra tools! → 
6. Combine characters and tools:
 - a. Let a cowboy ride a horse!
 - b. Put the police officer in his car!
7. Choose your favourite background music! → 
8. Record yourself and listen to it after:
 - a. Introduce yourself (name, age)!
 - b. Describe the setting you have chosen!

2. Get some ideas: Watch the following sample Puppet Show on YouTube!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SOPj5VIHhU0>

Create Your Own Puppet Show

Create your own Puppet Show using the app Puppet Pals 2! Make sure that the total running time of your video is no longer than 3 minutes!

Tick all the steps on the checklist that you have completed!

Steps	✓
Idea/Story/Plot: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Do some brainstorming on your topic: What things, people and images come up in your mind when you think of it?	
Preparation <ul style="list-style-type: none">Setting: Where does your story take place?Characters: Which characters are involved?Tools: What do the characters need (e.g. car, horse, etc.)?Music: What kind of music fits your topic? (You can still change it later on!)	
Drafting/Text Production <ul style="list-style-type: none">Write about your topic!Include dialogues: Do all the characters have enough speaking time?Think about an introductory and a closing sentence!Watch the total length (speaking time should be no longer than 3 minutes)!	
Correction <ul style="list-style-type: none">It is important that the teacher looks at the text before the recording!	
Rehearsal <ul style="list-style-type: none">Practice your text: Read it out loud in your group!Correct yourselves: Does everybody pronounce the words correctly?Stop the time (no longer than 3 minutes)!	
Recording/Creating the video <ul style="list-style-type: none">Record your voices!Move the characters around!Add sounds and music!Make sure text and pictures match!	
Editing/Correction of your own video <ul style="list-style-type: none">Is the total running time no longer than 3 minutes?Do text, pictures and sound match?Are all the words pronounced correctly?Would a person who sees your video for the first time understand it?	