

JALT Sendai & JALT's Teaching Younger Learners SIG present

## The **JALT** Younger Learner Teachers' **Olympic Webinar**

Sunday, 18<sup>th</sup> July 17:00 - 20:00 pm via Zoom

The ultimate goal of the Olympic and Paralympic Games is to build a better world, through encouraging people to persevere and do the best they can, while respecting others and their environment, and by bringing people together in friendship across borders. In this webinar, we hope to mirror these goals and focus on the infinite potential of picturebooks in young learner foreign language education.

Come and join us as we welcome via Zoom, two internationally renowned experts in young learner education; Sandie Mourão, based in Portugal, and David Valente, based in Norway, in the run-up-to the Tokyo 2021 Olympic Games, and invite them to open up and share their treasure trove of facts, stories and top tips on how we can begin or improve using the heart-warming and versatile resource, picturebooks, in our classrooms!



Image from Unsplash

# **Webinar Programme**

**Introduction 17:00-17:30 By JALT Sendai: Alison & Emily**



## **Part 1**

### **Pictures, words and the gaps between: The potential of picturebooks in early language learning**

Sandie Mourão  
CETAPS, Nova University Lisbon, Portugal

**17:30-18:30 - 17:30-18:15 Presentation, 15 mins. Q & A**

Webinar abstract:

Using literature in language teaching is common practice, but the potential of picturebooks as a multimodal form of children's literature in early language learning tends to be underestimated. Sharing two picturebook read-alouds, I will demonstrate the potential that picturebooks hold for the primary English classroom. I will also show how teacher mediation can help children make sense of the inter-animation of pictures, words, and the gaps between. My aim is to show how meaningful language use can be coupled with critical thinking for an age-appropriate learning experience.

Bio Data:

Sandie Mourão (PhD) is a research fellow at Nova University Lisbon, with over 30 years of experience as a teacher, teacher educator and materials developer and author in English language education. She is presently investigating children's literature for intercultural citizenship education with children from 5 to 12 years old. She is particularly interested in EFL in primary and pre-primary contexts, the role of free play in early language learning, the use of picturebooks in all levels of language education, intercultural understanding and citizenship education, assessment, and teacher collaboration. For more information see: <https://www.cetaps.com/sandie-mourao/>; <https://icepell.eu/>; <https://picturebooksinelt.blogspot.com/>; <https://pepelt21.com/>

**BREAK 18:30 – 18:45**



## Part 2

### **Eco-consciousness in primary ELT: Amplifying the voices of nature through picturebooks**

David Valente  
Nord University, Norway

**18:45-19:45 - 18:45-19:30 Presentation, 15 mins. Q & A**

**Final comments 19:45-20:00**

Webinar abstract:

This session will focus on the use of picturebooks for amplifying diverse voices in primary English language education. According to Dolan, picturebooks can ‘... bridge the gap between geographically distant places and the lives of children in the classroom’ (2004, p.3) through their dynamic interplay of images and verbal text to help learners to ‘read the world’. I will demonstrate that diverse representation also includes important environmental perspectives and I will share a pedagogical framework with practical ideas to accompany three picturebooks with ecological themes. My aim is to inspire teachers to include the voices of nature in their English lessons and thereby, raise children’s eco-consciousness through picturebooks in primary ELT.

Bio Data:

David Valente is a Nord University, Norway research fellow in English language and literature subject pedagogy. His research interests include children’s literature in primary English teaching, primary and secondary teacher education and diversity and inclusion in ELT. His PhD research explores the deep reading of children’s literature for in-depth learning by raising diversity awareness in English language education. He has over 20 years’ experience in English language education as a teacher, teacher educator, academic manager, coursebook author and journal editor. He is also the reviews editor for the Children’s Literature in English Language Education journal.

Participants are welcomed to do a short 'flipped' task before attending David’s webinar, by watching one or two of the recommended read-alouds on You Tube, the links are provided below;

1. Welcome by Barroux (Egmont, 2016), read-aloud: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pPA1Y05xct8>
2. We Are Water Protectors by Carole Lindstrom & Michaela Goade (Roaring Brook Press, 2020), read-aloud: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jqWTouyaQ-8>
3. Clean Up! by Nathan Byron and Dapo Adeola (Penguin Books, 2020), read-aloud: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WmtNs\\_D7MnY](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WmtNs_D7MnY)

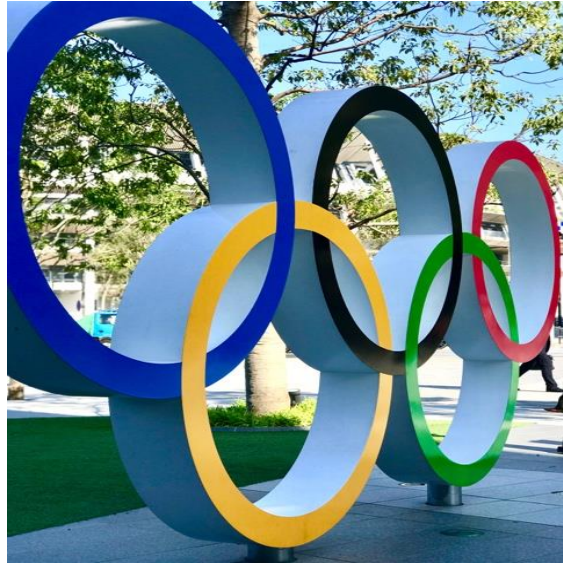


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"Olympism is a philosophy of life, exalting and combining in a balanced whole the qualities of body, will and mind. Blending sport with culture and education, Olympism seeks to create a way of life based on the joy found in effort, the educational value of good example and respect for universal fundamental ethical principles."

From: <https://olympics.com/ioc/olympic-values>