

# ‘The Polar Bear’s Pin’

## An EFL phonics story to teach pronunciation to young learners

### Webinar handout

by Stella Palavecino

After the webinar, I am sure you would like to try your skills at writing stories like the Polar’s Bear Pin. Below, are some tips to help you write *Emopron stories* of your own.

#### How to create an *Emopron* story of your own

Steps	Task	Tips
<b>Objective</b>	<p>Make a list of priorities for teaching targeted sounds.</p> <p>You can find priorities for Spanish Speakers in the following link:  <a href="https://emopronstories.com.ar/teaching-priorities/">https://emopronstories.com.ar/teaching-priorities/</a></p>	<p>Consider the sounds inexistent in the mother tongue that interferes in communication</p>
<b>Before writing a new Emopron Story</b>	<p>Think of a trick or movement in the mother tongue that will help young learners visualize the new place of articulation.</p> <p>For example the “th” sound can be related to a clown that is naughty because he puts the tongue out.</p>	<p>Think of a playful context and fantasy characters as part of a story</p>
<b>Use Emopron stories to make new</b>	<p>Think of a narrative whose conflict is solved only by noticing a new place of articulation that</p>	<p>The Polar Bear’s Pin can help you as a guidance to write your story</p>

<b>articulatory habits noticeable and memorable.</b>	is essential to be intelligible when speaking, reading and writing in the targeted language.	
<b>After reading the story</b>	Use hands-on activities to experimenting with new sounds. Remember that teachers cannot use meta-language with children because children do not learn in that way.	Find sample activities in the following link: <a href="https://emopronstories.com.ar/resources/">https://emopronstories.com.ar/resources/</a>
<b>Meaningful Repetition</b>	Use songs and chants as a resource for sound repetition.	You can find Emopron songs as examples in the following link: <a href="https://emopronstories.com.ar/resources/">https://emopronstories.com.ar/resources/</a>

Once non-native speakers of English can acquire the targeted sounds, teachers can make the sound to spelling relationship memorable through phonics activities after having taught the sounds needed to hear the sounds in words. That is a fundamental stage before reading and writing.

Emopron stories is the missing link in EFL young learner classes. If you want, you can share your stories with Stella. Find her here: <https://emopronstories.com.ar/contact/>

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A recording of Stella Palavecino's webinar can be watched here:

<https://www.teachingenglish.org.uk/news-and-events/webinars/webinars-teachers/supporting-literacy-development-mini-event>