

# Using Role-play in Enhancing Speaking Skills and Confidence of Malaysian Primary School Students: A new Approach

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## ABSTRACT

English has an essential role in communication in this era as it has been the lingua franca of the world's globalization. English need to be utilized in a communicative classroom for the new learners in order to be competent speakers and competitively communicative. Some strategies have been significantly beneficial to enhance speaking performance among learners. Role-playing is one of these strategies which has critically enhanced the speakers' performance as compared to learning method. Therefore, this study aims to examine the effectiveness of using the role-play activities in the primary classroom to improve students' speaking skills and confidence. A new approach is implemented in this study and seventy eight pupils from year 4 from SK Taman Rinting 2, Johor Malaysia are involved in this study. A pre-test is managed through a six time of treatment session to identify their level. Later, a post-test is implemented to explore if any progression of their confidence and speaking skills is achieved. A questionnaire and a field observation checklist and semi structured were used to carryout the study and find the correlation between using role-play activities and level of enhancement of speaking skills and confidence. Qualitative and quantitative data are used to improve the learning activity and explore the impact of the implemented theory in the study. The preliminary findings revealed that students' speaking performance significantly improved and the role-play helps to expand their oral skills. Positive correlation between students' interest and motivation in role-play activities and their speaking performance is achieved.

**Keywords:** Role-play theory, Enhance English speaking, Student confidence, Role-play activities, Speaking skills.