



# Being Ambitious Professional Learning

by Pippa Johnstone (Primary EAL Teacher)

## Elizabeth Jarman JAWS – Learning Environments



As a Primary EAL Teacher the learning environment needs to be especially rich in language and help the children feel safe and secure to develop a new language.

This experience made me think about;

- The importance of using natural materials
- Providing cosy, warm spaces and incorporating subtle lighting for relaxation and reflection
- Including areas for individuals or small groups
- Using everyday objects in different ways
- Creating 3D and interactive displays

Since returning from this course the Primary EAL Base has totally changed. There is now an enclosed 'Jungle Reading Area' filled with cushions and blankets. All the children enjoy reading activities in this space. There are low level circular tables which we use daily for speaking and listening activities. Displays are both 3D and 2D and all resources are easily accessible for the children.

My experiences and learning from this course have been shared with colleagues whom I share the EAL Base with. Together we created an interactive display outside the Base. A display that motivated and encouraged primary children to write for a 'real reason.'

The EAL Base now receives regular visits from teaching staff, potential parents and children and most recently the visitors from Nord Anglia.

*Do you have any professional development news you want to share?  
If so contact Mark Loader at [mark.loader@regents-pattaya.co.th](mailto:mark.loader@regents-pattaya.co.th)*