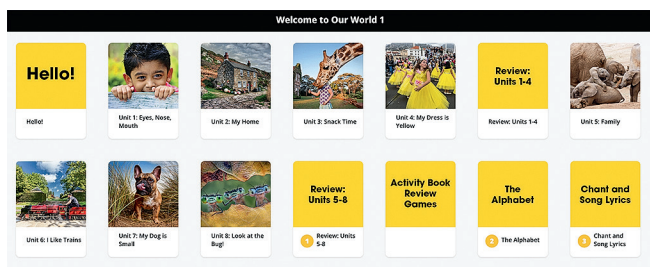


## Online Teaching

*Welcome to Our World* Second Edition can support online teaching for very young learners. More than ever, teachers around the world are engaging young children through 100 percent online courses, as well as blended courses, which include both online and in-person instruction. With *Welcome to Our World's* suite of digital tools and resources, it has never been easier to engage preprimary young learners online.

You can use your school's own video conferencing platform in combination with *Welcome to Our World's* Learning Management System, Classroom Presentation Tool, Videos, eBooks, and Online Practice. Using the share screen function, you can engage children in videos, activities, and games in real time.



The **Three-Step Online Teaching Routines** for *Welcome to Our World* can be used in an online setting easily through video conferencing. While children have their books open in their laps or on tabletops, you can share your own screen through a video conferencing platform and guide children through the activities on each page. You can still use flashcards by holding them up to your webcam.

Here are some tips for making sure your very young learners stay engaged learning English through *Welcome to Our World*.

- **Synchronous virtual classes should be no more than thirty minutes.** Having face-to-face time with your young learners online is very important, but very young learners cannot be expected to sit in front of the screen for longer periods of time.
- **Ask parents to set up a space where children can sit comfortably during class time.** Families should decide what works best for their homes. However, you should suggest that parents or caregivers set up a comfortable place without distractions. It would be ideal if children could move around while looking at the screen of the computer, laptop, tablet, or mobile device. The screen should be in a fixed place on a table to avoid having children move it around

during the class. Then children can sing songs with movement with you or play games like Simon Says or Charades.

- **Ask parents to be present during your synchronous virtual classes.** They can sit next to their child, or nearby, in order to provide assistance to the teacher and their child when needed.
- **Communicate instructions for online activities with parents or caregivers.** If there are specific instructions for an activity, it is important to communicate this information to the families in advance and provide instructions in their home language.
- **Make the most of your time online with children.** Choose activities that require interaction between teacher and children for the virtual class time. For example, videos and online games could be assigned to children and watched multiple times before, after, or between virtual sessions. You might want to save interactive storytelling and singing for synchronous sessions, so you can check comprehension, encourage children's participation, and provide immediate feedback.
- **Incorporate children's favorite toys and belongings whenever possible.** If children can use their own toys and belongings during class, it will make the language learning more meaningful. Be sensitive to the fact that some children may not have as many toys as others, so you should never make it a requirement to incorporate toys in a lesson. However, if it is possible to have some manipulatives and realia from the children's home to enhance learning, these could make the class more fun and engaging. Work with families to prepare a toy, object, or even food that matches the vocabulary in the unit.
- **Use simple classroom management routines for your virtual classes.** Young children learn best when they know what to expect during every part of the class. Similar to in-person classes, you can develop classroom management routines for your virtual classes. For example, at the beginning of every class, you should greet children by singing the **Hello Song** and then talk to children and find out how they are. During class, you can use *brain breaks* in between activities, such as stretching or having a one-minute dance party! Finally, you can end class with the **Goodbye Song**. Teachers can build other routines, like ringing a bell every time it is *storytelling time* or blowing a whistle when it is time to sing a song—anything to get very young learners excited about the next activity!