



# Using Realia with EAL Literacy Learners



Alberta Routes: Building Capacity  
in Community Educators

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For the Love of Literacy!  
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# Outcomes

By the end of the webinar, you will be able to :

- Identify **reasons** for using realia with English language learners
- Identify **skills and concepts** that can be taught using realia
- Expand your **toolbox** of activities



# What is Realia?

- objects and material created for an audience of first language users
- everyday life items and texts brought into the language classroom to enhance language learning



# Examples of Realia

## TEXTS

- menus
- schedules and calendars
- magazines, news
- food, medicine labels
- videos, audio
- tickets / receipts
- greeting cards
- forms



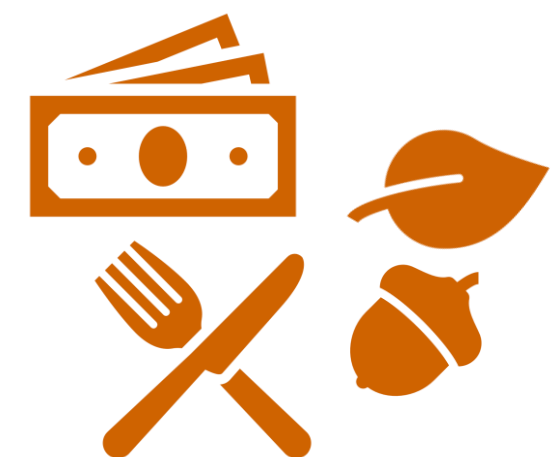
## IMAGES

- published photos
- personal photos
- videos
- ads
- maps
- cellphones



## ITEMS

- money
- household items
- objects from nature
- clothing items





# Why Use Realia?

- engaging and motivating
- authentic language
- links classroom to outside world
- links language to culture
- tangible learning
- learner-centred
- saves instructor prep time



# Teaching Tips

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- Choose based on **interest and needs**.
  - Provide language **support**.
  - **Adjust** for learner levels.
  - Use in **authentic** ways.



# Teaching Different Language Aspects

## VOCABULARY & GRAMMAR

- Count and non-count nouns
- Prepositions
- Question words
- Imperatives

## FOUR SKILLS

- Speaking and Listening
- Reading and Writing







# Toolbox Activities

Activity	Realia	Skills & Concepts
<b>About Me</b>	personal objects	asking and answering questions
<b>Tourist Information</b>	brochures, maps	planning a schedule, giving directions
<b>100 Uses</b>	objects around the home	creative thinking, discussion
<b>Family Tree</b>	photos	vocabulary, story telling
<b>Jigsaws</b>	articles or videos	summarizing (reading, listening, speaking)





# Brainstorming: What's in your wallet?

Empty your pockets or bags!

What do you have on you that you could use?

- **How** could you use it?
- **What skills** could be developed?







# Conclusion

Last thoughts? Questions?

A takeaway?

*Thanks for joining us!*

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*Have a look around....  
The teaching aids you need  
may be closer than you think.*

*- Mumford, 2005*

**BYE!**



**SIGNING OFF**





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