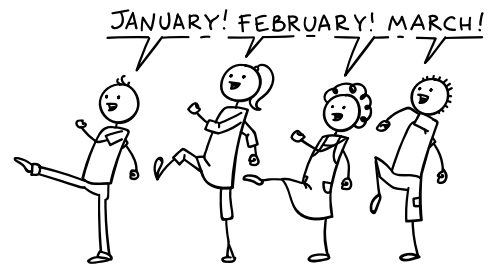


Lesson:

## Months of the Year



### General:

Time:	40 mins - 1 hour
Objectives:	Saying the months of the year
Structures:	"What month is it?"
Target Vocab:	January - December

### You will need to download:

Printables:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Months Order worksheet</li><li>• Months Scramble worksheet</li><li>• Reader worksheet</li><li>• Months March Song Poster</li><li>• Warm Up &amp; Wrap Up lesson sheet</li></ul>
Reader:	Silly Willy's Months
Songs:	Months March song

These can be downloaded at <http://www.eslkidstuff.com/esl-kids-lesson-plans.html>

### You will also need:

- coloured crayons
- CD / Tape player or something to play the song on
- a calendar (in English if possible)
- sets of 12 cards with a month written on each card (enough sets for each pair of students)
- Blue-Tack or tape

### Notes:

Learning all the months in their correct order is not the easiest task, but using the song in this lesson regularly helps a lot!

## Lesson Overview:

### Warm Up and Maintenance:

1. See our "Warm Up & Wrap Up" lesson sheet.

### New Learning and Practice:

1. Teach the months of the year vocab
2. Play "Put the months in order"
3. Play "Wall Touch"
4. Sing the "Months March" song
5. Read classroom reader "Silly Willy's Months"
6. Do a "Months Order" worksheet

### Wrap Up:

1. Set Homework: "Months Scramble" worksheet
  2. See our "Warm Up & Wrap Up" lesson sheet.
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## Lesson Procedure:

### Warm Up and Maintenance:

See our "Warm Up & Wrap Up" lesson sheet.

### New Learning and Practice:

#### 1. Teach the months of the year vocab

Start off by looking at a calendar with everyone (and English one, if possible). Have some fun with the calendar first: ask students to point at holidays such as Christmas and to point out their birthdays. Ask what month their birthdays are in and point to the month word (e.g. January) at the top of each month. Start to teach / elicit the English words for months as you discuss their birthdays. Ask what

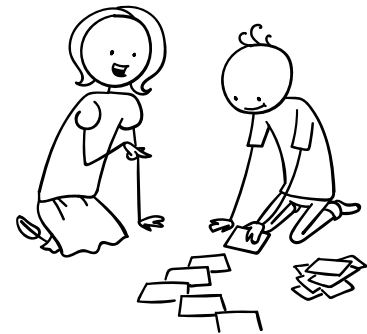


month it is now as well as the following (using the calendar):

- the month Christmas is in
- months other holidays are in (e.g. Easter, famous national holidays – this depends on the country you are teaching in!)
- months for different seasons (e.g. summer months, winter, spring and fall / autumn)

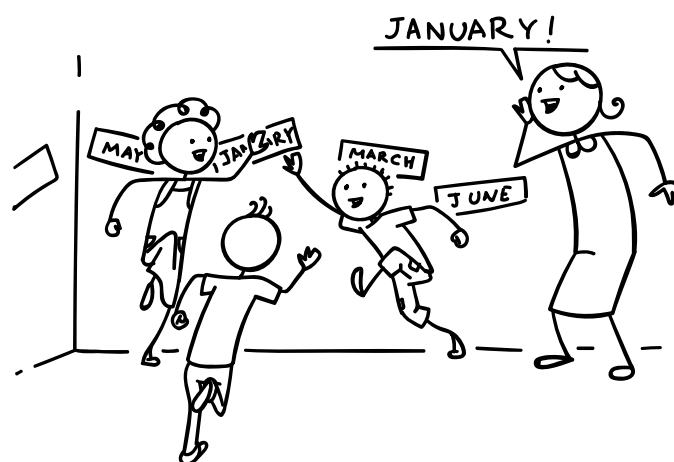
## 2. Play "Put the months in order"

Before class, prepare some coloured rectangles of card and write the months of the year in thick marker pen on each rectangle of card. You'll be putting students in pairs so make enough sets for each pair. Also, if each month can be written on a different coloured card it will help the students to quickly identify each month. Put your students in pairs and give each pair a set of mixed up cards. By referring to the calendar, have the pairs put the months in order on the floor or table. Then get everyone to touch each card and repeat after you as you chorus the months of the year paying special attention to the first letter of each word (e.g. "J" for "January"). Run through a few times, getting faster and faster. Finally, get the pairs to mix up the cards and tell them they are going to race to see which pair can put their cards in order first. Say "Ready, steady, go!" and let the students put the cards in order.



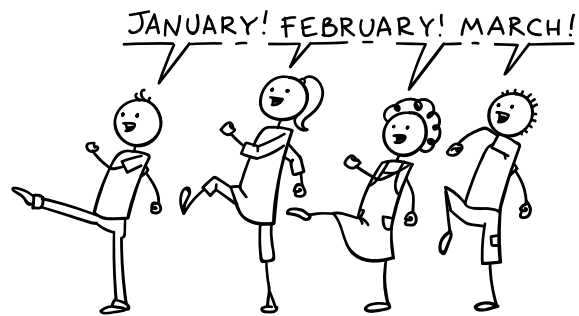
## 3. Play "Wall Touch"

Give each pair some Blue-Tack or something to stick the cards on the wall with. Ask everyone to randomly stick their cards all over the walls around the room. Then bring everyone into the middle of the room. Shout out "January" and everyone has to race over to a January card and touch it. Then "February" and so on (in the correct order) until you make it through all the months. Play another round, this time faster.



#### 4. Sing the "Months March" song

Put one set of months cards on the board in the correct order (or use our song poster). Get everyone to stand to attention, like soldiers, and then follow the steps in the "Gestures for Months March" shown below. If this is the first time to sing the song, play it at least twice and let everyone enjoy marching around.



#### Lyrics for "Months March"

*Ready ... March!*

January (January)  
 February (February)  
 March (March)  
 April (April)  
 May (May)  
 June (June)  
 July (July)  
 August (August)  
 September (September)  
 October (October)  
 November (November)  
 December (December)

*Everybody ... Stop!*

*Ready ... March!*

January, February, March, April, May, June, July,  
 August, September, October, November,  
 December.

*Everybody ... Stop!*

#### Gestures for "Months March"

The actions are very simple for the song:

**If you have a large room with plenty of space for everyone to march around:**

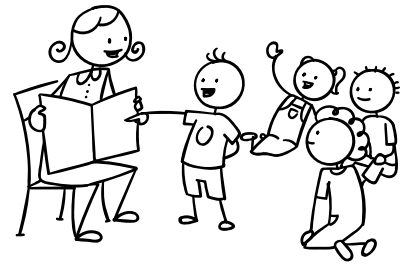
1. Get everyone to line up facing forwards. Everyone must stand to attention like soldiers (chin up, chests out, perfectly straight and still)
2. Start the music and get everyone to march in time to the music on the command "Ready ... March!". Everyone needs to march in a perfect line, arms swinging up to the horizontal.
3. The first verse of the song is a call / repeat style: the singer calls out the months and everyone repeats. Have everyone marching up and down the classroom shouting out the months.
4. On the command "Everybody ... Stop!" everyone stops and stands to attention, perfectly still. Then start marching again on "Ready ... March!".
5. This time there is no repeating. Students have to remember the months and shout them out as they march.

**If you only have a small room or don't have much space:**

Follow the same steps as above but get everyone to march on the spot.

## 5. Read classroom reader "Silly Willy's Months"

Let's follow the song with a reader which uses all of the months vocabulary. Before class, download and print off the reader "Silly Willy's Months" from our website. As you go through each page, point to the pictures and elicit the months, as well as other vocab including weather and the things the characters are doing, for example:



*Teacher: (pointing at the picture on page 3) Look at Silly Willy! What is he doing?*

*Students: Sunbathing!*

*Teacher: Yes, that's right! But is it hot?*

*Students: No, it's cold. It's snowing.*

*Teacher: Yes, that's right! Silly, Silly Willy! So, what month do you think it is when it's snowing?*

*Students: January?*

*Teacher: Let's check (reading) "Where Silly Willy lives, January and February are very cold. But Silly Willy likes to sunbathe!". So, it's January and February.*

Get the students really involved in the story by asking lots of questions about the weather during different months and activities they do (and don't do) in their country, for example:

*Teacher: Do you like to sunbathe in January and February?*

*Students: No!*

*Teacher: Why not? What is the weather like here in January and February?*

*Students: It's cold and rainy.*

*Teacher: So, when do you like to sunbathe?*

*Students: In August.*

*etc.*

After reading the story, give out a reader worksheet to each student and have everyone try to remember which months Silly Willy did the different things. Then read through the story one more time (without stopping for questions, etc.) and check through the answers as a class.

## 6. Do "Months Order" worksheet

Give out the "Months Order" worksheet to each student. As your students are doing their worksheets, circulate and ask questions (e.g. "What month is it?", etc.).



## Wrap Up:

1. Assign Homework: "Months Scramble" worksheet.
2. Wrap up the lesson with some ideas from our "Warm Up & Wrap Up" lesson sheet.

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- All flashcards, worksheets, craft sheets, readers and songs used in this lesson plan can be downloaded at [eslkidstuff.com/esl-kids-lesson-plans.html](http://www.eslkidstuff.com/esl-kids-lesson-plans.html)
  - More free Lesson Plans are available at [eslkidstuff.com/esl-kids-lesson-plans.html](http://www.eslkidstuff.com/esl-kids-lesson-plans.html)

Can you suggest any additions to this lesson plan? If you know of any great games, activities, teaching points, links to other sites or any other ideas that can be added to this lesson plan, please email us: <http://www.eslkidstuff.com/contact.htm>

Please report any mistakes at <http://www.eslkidstuff.com/contact.htm>

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