

My name is Gabriela Curty Nasaby, I am a classroom teacher at school 34 in Young, *departamento* de Rio Negro.

In 2014 I started working in the programme of *Ceibal en Inglés*, which I found interesting from the very beginning, since English is a subject I have always liked.

When I was eight years old, I succeeded in achieving what I believed was the best: attend English lessons. Those lessons were for free; they were organized by the town hall, and offered to anyone who would want to learn English. But one day those lessons were over. The teacher left our town and with her, my illusion to learn English, as I knew my family could not afford those lessons.

I started Secondary, and in English I managed to have good results, which always surprised my teachers in those days, since I did not attend private lessons. Those marks were the result of my interest in learning a foreign language. Year after year my teachers would speak to my parents and ask them to send me to private lessons, but I clearly knew this was not possible as my family could not invest in that kind of education. I am not ashamed of this, I am quite proud of my family. My parents worked really hard to provide my siblings and I with an education, with a background that would help us through life.

This is how by 2011 I finished my teaching degree, always vibrating in my heart a wish to learn English.

Nowadays, I live the consolidation of that dream, in a different way, embracing modern technology, I learn and I help others to learn English.

When in 2014, lessons started, my expectations were very high, I had a mixture of feelings, illusion, excitement because I did not know what I had signed my name for. In those days I did the *Ceibal en Inglés* orientation sessions with our mentor in those days, Ana Gari. She showed us how to use the screen, she guide us on how to walk towards the new aim.

One day I receive the call from Gilda, my remote teacher for that year. She gave me the great news that all was confirmed and we were ready to start. I told my students immediately, they were very happy, they had so many questions that I found it impossible to reply to all of them! Little by little we began preparation, talking about this new challenge, until the big day arrived.

We went to the room with the VC equipment; we opened the screen, waiting in silence for the call to arrive. It finally did.... The kids were so excited and nervous. The RT appeared on the screen, she introduced herself, the kids did so too, and I did it too, of course, although we had already Gilda and I had already been in contact on various occasions, we had never seen each other's faces. The lesson was very good, dynamic and fun. We exchanged ideas and began working together so that our children could learn. It was an amazing experience. The lesson was over, we said good-bye. As the screen was closing, the kids' comments started: how much they had enjoyed the lesson, the teacher very good, the videos and the songs, appealing. They left the room already telling people all they had learnt, telling each other words in English, trying their voices in English, and speaking English.

The following days we were always in contact with Gilda, exchanging ideas on how to improve lessons, we coordinated, I asked her all kinds of questions about lessons B-C, she guided me, and in this way, I began acquiring confidence to lead lessons B-C.

It is relatively easy to sharpen pedagogical time when one is certain that what one is doing is beneficial and fruitful for our children, for this reason I had no problem in adapting my work plan to include and give time to this new experience.

The created bond between CT-students-RT was quite strong, they would tell her their anecdotes, how they had spent their weekends, they asked her about her holidays, they would chat about the weather, among other things. All lessons were delivered with absolute naturalness, as if we were physically sharing the same room.

Personally I have learnt to work with a peer, with another professional through videoconference, planning, trying to find solutions and different strategies, testing, and making between the two of us an undivided team.

I am at the moment enrolled in an on-line course provided by the British Council; I am at level 4, Intermediate 1. I am very happy and full of enthusiasm, since I am learning a great deal, realizing my dream, studying English.

This year I am also working in *Ceibal en Inglés*, I am still very enthusiastic, seeing the children's faces when the screen is opened and another person appears who is there to teach them another language.

The most encouraging aspect of this programme is to witness one's students facial expression, their brightened faces, attentively listening what the other person has to say, singing songs, dancing, wanting to participate every moment.

This experience is highly enriching, both for CTs and students, I have felt encouraged by RTs, by mentors from *Ceibal en Inglés*, by the head teacher, which is very important, since I have always wanted to develop professionally and to learn new things.

It is greatly inspiring to be able to help children in this new experience, but it is even more inspiring to have this programme of *Ceibal en Inglés*, since it is the programme which will make them grow and develop their capacities.