

Cartoons, Video, Singing and Playing in Yokot'an:

***A proposal for revitalization and maintenance.
"The Yokot'an Kids Animation Project".***

Amanda Alejandra Delgado Galván and Domingo Alejandro.

Leiden University and Escritores de Lenguas Originarias en Tabasco.



Universiteit Leiden



Outline

- The Yokot'an context.
- The goals of the project.
- How do we work?
- The animated doodles!

Yokot'an (Chontal de Tabasco).

❖ Mayan linguistic family.

MAYA-CHOLAN-TZELTALAN-CH'OL-CHONTAL-
YOKOT'AN.

Tapotzingo in the State of Tabasco, Mexico.



Historical background of Yokot'an.

-Before the Spaniards.

Multilingual, bilingual speakers:the elites and the men.

-During the 1919's and 1934's.

Yokot'an is forbidden.

- Since 1972's "Bilingual Education School" .

Untrained teacher.

Teachers do not speak the language.

-2009 Official recognition in the local legislation.

Attitudes .



Speakers	Yokot'an	Spanish
Yokot'an	-low status	-prestige
Spanish	-low status -folklorist	-prestige

Stakeholders	San Simon	Tapotzingo	Mazateupa
Elders	+	+	-/+
Adults	+	+	-
Kids	+	-/+	-

Domains	San Simon	Tapotzingo	Mazateupa
Home	+	+	-/+
School/Work	-	-	-
Church		-	-
Square	-/+	-	-

The Yokot'an Kids Animation Project.

- How did it start?
- The needs...

Linguist
????

Yokot'an writer
????

The community
????

- **Our goals.**

- Creating new domains of use.
- Awakening sleeping speakers and emergence of new speakers.
- Improving reading and writing skills in Yokot'an kids.
- Having fun!!*

- **Our targets.**

- Kids (non-speakers, semi-speakers, fluent speakers)
- Adolescent. *(future)
-

- **The reality.**

- No money.

- **The type of speakers we are working with.**

- All attend Yokot'an "bilingual" school.

- Not all kids speak Yokot'an.

- Different ages.

- **How do we work?**

- We choose two linguistic themes to work on.

- We choose a song to practice Yokot'an writing and reading.

- We illustrate the song.

- We create four groups of children with one fluent speaker playing the role of a monitor to invoke a conversation within the group.

- We animate the song with illustrations made by the children.

- They make an "official" presentation to the community and neighbour communities.

Yokot'anjob animation workshop in Tapotzingo.

We choose two linguistic
themes to work on.

Body Parts

Topological relations.



- -We choose a song: Ajpin pon.
- They write the lyrics of the song to practice their writing.
- -They read the lyrics of the song to practice their reading skills.
- They sing Ajpin pon!!
- We record the kids singing the song.



- We animate the song with the illustrations made by the kids.
- 1. Discussion of Body Parts by creating our main character.



- 2. Discussion of topological relations while they are illustrating each verse of the song. The monitors only speak Yokot'an.



- The animation is created.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HD7rk7BUfiM&feature=share>

- The animation is ready to be presented to the community!

Conclusions.

- We were all more motivated to continue working on the language.
- The kids found a new sphere to speak Yokot'an.
- We created literature in the language and want to keep working in the documentation of Yokot'an.
- Domingo has someone to read his books!!
- It is something possible to do!!
- We had fun!!

Ka' Dios...

Gracias...

Merci...

Thank you..

Dank u wel.

