

Fabric and Fibre Lesson with Infants 'The Three Little Pigs' Gemma Mc Girr

Curriculum Strand: Fabric and Fibre (Visual Arts Curriculum p.23)

Objective: *Explore the possibilities of fabric and fibre as media for imaginative expression (p.23)
Make simple collages (p.23)*

Linkage: *Print > Experiment with the effects that can be achieved with simple print-making (p.20)
Paint and Colour > Discover the relationship between how things feel and how they look (p.19)
Drawing > Make drawings based on vividly recalled feelings, real and imaginative experiences and stories (p.18)
Construction > Explore and experiment with the properties and characteristics of materials / making structures (p.22); Make imaginative structures (p.22)*

Integration Possibilities:

*Oral Language: Listen to, learn and retell a rich variety of stories, rhymes and songs (p.21)
Mathematics: Develop an understanding of the concept of time through the use of appropriate vocabulary (p.33); Sequence daily events or stages in a story (p.33)
Science: Observe and investigate a range of familiar materials in the immediate environment (p.27); Know about some everyday uses of common materials (p.27)
Geography: Acquire some awareness of different types of homes in the locality (p.24); Begin to appreciate the need for shelter for a family (p.24)*

Developing this Activity in Class:

Getting Started: Read the story of *The Three Little Pigs* for the children and have samples of straw, sticks and red bricks for the children to see and handle.

Materials Needed: Scraps of fabrics and wools of different textures and colours
Coloured paper of different textures (sugar paper, tissue, crepe etc)
Card (for backing)
Crayons and/or paint and brushes
Glue or PVA
Shallow containers for the glue, e.g., the lids from Pringles tubes

Stimulus: The Three Little Pigs – “Describe the house the first Little Pig made. Is your house made like his? Do you think it was a strong house? What colour do you think it was? What happened to it? What about the second Little Pig, how did he build his house? What colour do you think it was? What did the Big Bad Wolf do to his house? Tell us about the third Little Pig, what did he choose to build his house? What happened to his house? What is your house made from? Could the Big Bad Wolf blow *your* house down? Look at the fabrics and wools we have here, do any of them remind you of straw/sticks/bricks? Feel the fabrics and wools and describe what they feel like.”

Activity: The children choose one of the houses for their collage and choose from the scraps of fabrics and wools to make it. Encourage them to feel the fabrics/wools and to describe the textures to see if it would suit their choice of house. They might need to scrunch the fabrics to get the shapes they want, or you can help them to cut the shapes. They might also like to use some of the coloured paper. Use the card as a backing for the picture. The children might like to draw or paint in additional features when they

have stuck the fabrics down. Display their work in the classroom or other suitable place in the school.

Evaluation/Looking and Responding:

This will be happening as the children work. Encourage them to talk about what they are doing, what the fabrics feel and look like. Ask them why they chose their house and what it was like to make it. Give them time to talk to each other about their pictures.

Extension Activities:

The children could make drawings, paintings, prints or constructions of the houses.

ICT Possibilities:

The children might like to scan in their houses and write their names on them.

Using the I Am An Artist DVD:

The *Fabric and Fibre* programmes on the DVD offer opportunities to see children using fabrics and fibres to make pictures.

Note:

Please *do not* draw an outline of a house for the children to fill in with fabric pieces. Allow them to make their own house shapes, to choose their own fabrics and wools and to fill in any additional features themselves. You can make appropriate suggestions if they seem to get bogged down but do not give in to the temptation to do it for them. They will learn far more if they are allowed to make their own choices.

Relevant Artists:

Relevant Websites:

See artist Liz Kane's work using paint and fabrics
http://www.lizkane.net/html/gallery_0203.html

Scoilnet, which is a portal to lots of sites useful in the classroom
<http://www.scoilnet.ie>