

Drawing Lesson with 5th to 6th Classes 'Illustrate a Cookery Book'

Gemma Mc Girr

Curriculum Strand: Drawing (Visual Arts Curriculum p.66)

Objective: *Draw imaginative themes using inventive pattern and detail (p.66)*

Linkage: **Paint and Colour** > *Express his/her imaginative life and interpret imaginative themes using colour expressively (p.68)*

Integration Possibilities:

SPHE: Realise and accept some personal responsibility or making wise food choices and adopting a healthy, balanced diet (p.57)

English: Write in a wide variety of genres (p.55)

Science: Develop a simple understanding of food and nutrition (p.83)

Geography: Explore, through the study of some major world commodities, trade issues (p.77)

*Mathematics: (1) Select and use appropriate instruments of measurement (weight and capacity) (p.105)
(2) Rename measures of weight (p.105)*

Developing this Activity in Class:

Materials Needed: Drawing paper
Pencils (2B, 4B)
(Optional: Colouring pencils, crayons, pastels, markers)

Stimulus: "Look at some cookery books. Are they all illustrated in the same way? Do any of them have drawings or are they all full of photographs? Would they tempt you to try out the recipes? Can you think of some other illustrations that could be used? What about the kitchen, the cook, the utensils? What do you think is going on in the kitchen while these meals are being cooked? Imagine the chef's face as he/she tastes some of these dishes! Imagine the scenes in the kitchen as ingredients are being beaten, chopped, whizzed and mixed!"

Activity 1: The children choose or make up a recipe and print it off on the computer, designing the layout of their own pages.

Activity 2: The children illustrate the pages, depicting what they think is happening in the kitchen during the making of their chosen recipe. The illustrations could be done around the edges of the page, or, if the children wished, they could be done on a separate page.

Evaluation/Looking and Responding:

This will be happening as the children work. Encourage them to be as creative and imaginative as they can, to bring a sense of fun to the work. When they have finished, the children sign and date their pages, as artists do! They can show and discuss their drawings in the 'Artists Chair'. Display the children's work in the classroom or corridor.

Encourage the children to respond to illustrators such as Quentin Blake, Shirley Hughes and Tony Ross.

Extension Activities: The children might like to try this activity as a separate lesson in cartoon drawing. They might change the theme, perhaps a DIY Manual. They will understand how important it is to look closely at a subject and that cartoons are based on drawing from observation.
(If you are feeling adventurous, you might like to try out some of the recipes with your class in the school kitchen!)

ICT Possibilities: The recipes and drawings could be scanned into the computer, printed and bound as a 'Class Cookery Book', which could be used as gifts or fundraisers.

Using the I Am An Artist DVD: The *Drawing* programmes on the DVD offer opportunities to listen to the children responding to their own works in the 'Artist's Chair'.

Other Notes: This is a very good exercise in getting the children to think about the text of what they are writing and to imagine it in pictorial form.

Relevant Artists: Quentin Blake
Shirley Hughes
Shel Silverstein
Tony Ross

Relevant Websites: Official Quentin Blake Website
<http://www.quentinblake.com/about/interview3.html>

Books illustrated by Tony Ross
http://www.encompassculture.com/encompass/magic_pencil/?S=Tony%20Ross

The cover of The Mary Frances Cook Book *Adventures Among the Kitchen People*
http://digital.lib.msu.edu/projects/cookbooks/images/books/400w/book64_cover.jpg