

Paint and Colour Lesson with 1st to 2nd Classes

‘Food in My Tummy’

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Curriculum Strand: Paint and Colour (Visual Arts Curriculum p.32)

Objective: *Use colour expressively to interpret themes based on his/her personal or imaginative life (p.32)*

Linkage: *Print > Experiment with the effects that can be achieved with simple print-making techniques (p.34)*

Integration Possibilities:

Oral Language: Experiment with more elaborate vocabulary and sentence structure in order to extend and explore meaning (p.27)

Science: Identify some requirements for growth and development in the human (p.41)

SPHE: Explore the importance of food for promoting growth, keeping healthy and providing energy (p.27)

Developing this Activity in Class:

Materials Needed: Paper
Palettes
Extra palettes or plates, for mixing colours and adding textures
Blue, red, yellow, white and black paint
Water containers
Selection of brushes
J-cloths
(Sawdust, salt or soap flakes, optional)

Stimulus: “What foods do you like to eat? Describe the colours of these foods. Are they all the same texture, size, shape? What do you like to drink? What colours are these drinks? Do you mix sweet and savoury foods on the plate? What would that taste like? What do you think happens to the food when you eat it? Where does it go? What happens to the food in your tummy? Can you imagine what that looks like? What might happen to the colours and textures? Try to imagine the blends of colours, shapes and textures in your tummy.”

Activity: Having discussed what happens to the food we swallow, the children make their paintings. As they have only been given the primaries, they will mix the secondary and tertiary colours themselves. This will probably happen on the page as they swirl colours and shapes together. It is wonderful to see and to hear their descriptions. They can add the sawdust, salt or soapflakes to the paint to create textures and this adds another dimension to the paintings. Encourage them to talk about their paintings, to describe what is happening as they work. When they have finished they sign their work, just as artists do!

Evaluation/Looking and Responding:

This will be happening as the children work. When they have finished give them time to discuss their paintings. They will enjoy explaining how they created a larger range of colours by mixing the primaries and how they created the various textures. This could be done with the ‘Artist’s Chair’, where children take turns to show and describe their paintings. Display the children’s paintings in the classroom or corridor.

Encourage the children to respond to paintings such as 'The Tea Cup' and 'Shimmering Substance' by Jackson Pollock, 'Autumn' by Giuseppe Arcimboldo and other artists you think relevant.

Extension Activity: The children could make a print of their imaginings. Using a selection of found objects (sponges, spoons, lego pieces, old toothbrushes, scrunched paper, leaves and foliage, scraps of fabric, etc.) the children could make prints of what they imagine happens to the food they eat. This could be done on different coloured sheets of sugar paper, it makes the printed colours look more dramatic.

ICT Possibilities: The children could make a Virtual Gallery of their paintings or prints by scanning them into a Power Point slide show on the class computer. (They could also be photographed with a digital camera and inserted into the Power Point program).

Using the I Am An Artist DVD: The *Paint and Colour* programmes on the DVD offer opportunities to listen to the children discussing colours and their reactions to mixing colours.

Note: It is a good idea to have a collection of brushes of different sizes. I found the household selection available in € shops ideal as they ranged in size from 1" to 3" and cost very little, about €3 for a pack of 3 or 4. If you look after them they will last for a good while.

Relevant Artists: Jackson Pollock
Giuseppe Arcimboldo
Other artists you think are relevant

Relevant Websites: *The Tea Cup* by Jackson Pollock
<http://www.ibiblio.org/wm/paint/auth/pollock/pollock.tea-cup.jpg>

Shimmering Substance by Jackson Pollock
<http://www.ibiblio.org/wm/paint/auth/pollock/pollock.shimmering.jpg>

Autumn by Giuseppe Arcimboldo
http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Image:Giuseppe_Arcimboldo_-_Autumn%2C_1573.jpg

Gallery of Giuseppe Arcimboldo's work
http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Giuseppe_Arcimboldo

Brief profile of Giuseppe Arcimboldo
<http://painting.about.com/library/biographies/blbioarcimboldo.htm>