

Creative Storytelling - We all Live Under the Same Sky

A teacher resource for Nursery children using creative storytelling to develop a sense of belonging, explore cultural diversity and being different.

Developed by Visual Artist Jo Coles with Nursery Teacher Selena Snelling at Patcham Infants School.

For more resources on creative wellbeing activities for children visit:

<http://www.ourfuturecity.org.uk/be-well>

Week 1: Self-portraits

Aim: To see ourselves as individuals.

Read: Happy in Our Skin by Fran Manushkin

Each child takes a look at themselves in a mirror.

Using blue, red, and yellow paint, each child mixes their own skin colour. To lighten the colour, use white and yellow paint. You might have to add a little red to re-balance the colour.

Test the paint on the child's hand as this will enable the child to see a good colour match.



Week 2: Mini Me

Aim: To create small versions of themselves and recognise what makes them individual.

Read: Frog is Frog by Max Velthuijs

Materials: Small wooden figures (amazon) or wooden pegs, pipe cleaners (skin coloured), wool, tissue paper for clothes, skin coloured paint, glue, ink pad, black Sharpie pen.

Children celebrate what makes them, them by telling the group what they're good at and what they like. Then they make a 'mini me' version of themselves.



Instructions:

1. Ink the child's finger and print on the base of the figure. Print with little finger, placing it first on paper to remove excess ink, and clean fingers after printing!
2. Paint faces with skin colour and then let dry
3. Put the pipe cleaner arms in place
4. Use the Sharpie pen to draw faces
5. Dress figures with tissue paper
6. Stick wool hair on



Week 3: Where We Live

Aim: To encourage an understanding and acceptance that we all live in different ways.

Read: Home by Carson Ellis

Materials and equipment: Card boxes, fibre pots, coloured paper, brown paper, masking tape, glue gun and sticks, split pins, scissors.

Some of the group can go off collecting twigs and foliage to enable them to build a scene. Set up a making station on a floor mat. Put out small oval PVC mats for each child to create their scene on. This gives them a clear space to work and helps them with interactive play and storytelling. Each child makes a home and garden for their 'mini me'.



Week 4: Wander the World

Aim: To discover the world through beautiful objects from around the world.

Read: *My World, Your World* by Melanie Walsh

Materials and Equipment: Card boxes, objects from around the world, 'mini me' made as different ethnicities.

Lay out the floor mat and dot the green oval mats about to form the world and its islands. Sitting in pairs, place a box in front of each pair. One by one open the boxes. Each box has an object from around the world and a wooden figure of different ethnic backgrounds. Talk about where the objects come from and what it might be like to live there.

Week 5: Celebrate

Aim: To share the children's work and the message of diversity with families and carers.

Invite parents/carers to an exhibition of the portraits, houses and mini-me's with children showing them round and telling them about what they've been doing and the books they've read.

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#BeWell Resources

Other Recommended Books:

- Princess and the Pea (set in Africa) by Rachel Isadora
- The New Jumper by Oliver Jeffers

www.ourfuturecity.org.uk

ourfuturecity@brightondome.org

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