

Bringing Folk Tales Alive for Four -Year Olds!

I've been at the ECC centers now for 10 years. When I first began, I read the Big Book Henny Penny each year to the kids. If you're not familiar with Henny Penny, it's very familiar to Chicken Little if you've heard of that.

Anyways, it was always a "fan favorite" and the kids LOVED the repeated readings of it. It has so much repetition in it that pretty soon that kids were all "reading" the book with me. The first few years, I'd gauge their comprehension with retellings.

Pretty soon, we were acting it out in the classroom and by my fourth year, I purchased costumes so we could broaden our acting abilities by performing this beloved story for other classrooms AND for parents. It instantly turned into a hit!

With the success of that, I'd like to now include 2 more beloved folk-tales to our Broadway debut. I'd like to add the Three Billy Goats Gruff and The 3 Little Pigs.

In addition to the fun of acting out the stories, it helps Pre-K students with the comprehension of the story through learning about characters, beginning, middle and end, setting etc. Also, the kinesthetic added benefit helps the retain it for a far longer time then merely just hearing it in story form.

Charlene Vogel

Grade level(s) impacted: Pre -Kindergarten

Grant classification (subject): Books/Reading

Number of students impacted, 25-26: 220

How many years do you expect the project materials to last 15 years or more

Purpose of the project and benefits anticipated for classroom/school This specific need/gap that this project will address at our Park Lane is namely Fine Arts - specifically Drama/Theatre.

With the help of an Art Tech grant which benefitted the Early Childhood Centers, we had the privilege of a dance teacher coming in once a week to teach the kids about dance and different cultures featuring differing styles of dance. That grant ended last year.

In addition to this, the project will reinforce and strengthen much needed literacy skills such as understanding story elements through characters, plot and setting and listening comprehension through retellings and acting it out.

Fine Arts Objectives:

Drama/Theatre:

*With guidance, retell stories, and or imagine variations of existing stories utilizing developmentally appropriate literature;

*Develop characters authentic to the drama/theatre work by using the body and voice to create vivid characters appropriate to the story;

*Sequence plot events in a play plan, dramatic play or guided drama experience;

*Prepare a unified drama/theatre work for presentation by demonstrating skills of drama/theatre, including imagination, focus and concentration.

*Use the body to create a vivid character with energy and movement and use the voice to create a vivid character with volume, pitch and tone.

Literacy:

*Students will begin to retell or reenact major events from a read-aloud with guidance and support.

*Students will describe the characters in a story with guidance and support;

*Sequence plot events in a play, dramatic play or guided drama experience.

Specific methods you will use to teach the above objectives I will teach the objectives through:

1. Repeated readings of the respective Big books of each folk tale.
2. We'll have mini-lessons to learn the characters, setting and a simple plot.
3. We'll use the flannel-board stories for retellings to gauge their reading comprehension
4. We'll have actual auditions for students to audition for the spots.
5. I'll model how to use tone and inflection for talking parts.
6. We'll practice our parts several times.
7. Since each Folk Tale only has 4 characters, we'll present it to other classes and/or parents several times so every student that wants a main role can have one.

Amount (less tax): 576.62

Shipping & Handling: 0

Vendor: Amazon

Will there be any costs associated with the project going forward? No

If you answered yes, how do you plan to cover those costs? N/A

How will the success of this proposal be measured and reported back to BAPSF and the community?

Success of the proposal will be measure and reported back to BAPSF by means of a simple rubric, I'll construct measuring each student's comprehension of each folk tale through retellings.

Success will also be measured by a score of "satisfactory" on the fine arts and literacy objectives as listed in the previous section.

Another huge objective of this proposal is simply joy and excitement. In the past, parents normally videotaped the performance and some posted to social media.

Is this a request for technology or a facilities alteration/installation? No