

Montessori Lessons Inspired by Celeste's Story

Lesson 1: Creative Expression through Costume Design

Estimated Time: 1 hour

Pedagogical Objectives:

- Develop creativity and self-expression through costume design.
- Enhance fine motor skills through sewing and crafting.
- Foster teamwork and collaboration among students.

Materials Needed:

- Fabric scraps (green and other colours)
- Fabric glue
- Measuring tape
- Dress patterns (simple designs)
- Accessories (ribbons, buttons, etc.)

Setup Instructions:

1. Prepare a workspace with tables for groups of 4-5 students.
2. Lay out the fabric scraps, fabric glue, and measuring tape in an organized manner.
3. Provide a few examples of simple dress patterns on large sheets of paper for students to reference.
4. Ensure that there are enough needles, threads, and glue for each group.

Lesson Procedure:

1. **Introduction (10 minutes):**
 - Briefly discuss Celeste's wish for a long green dress and how clothing can express identity.
 - Explain the objectives of the lesson and the importance of creativity.
2. **Group Work (30 minutes):**
 - Divide students into small groups and assign them to create a costume inspired by Celeste's story.

- Encourage them to discuss their ideas and collaborate on how to design and construct their outfits.
 - Circulate around the room to provide guidance and suggestions.
3. **Presentation (20 minutes):**
- Each group presents their costume design and explains how it connects to the story.
 - Facilitate a discussion on the creative choices made and the process of collaboration.

Lesson 2: Music and Movement

Estimated Time: 1 hour

Pedagogical Objectives:

- Explore the relationship between music and movement.
- Develop listening skills and rhythm awareness.
- Encourage creativity through improvisational movement.

Materials Needed:

- Flute music
- Open space for movement
- Optional: scarves or ribbons for movement exploration

Setup Instructions:

1. Clear a large area for movement activities. Ensure the device is ready to play the flute music.
2. If using scarves or ribbons, place them in an accessible area for students to use.

Lesson Procedure:

1. **Introduction (10 minutes):**
 - Discuss Vivaldi the flute playing cat and how music can evoke the sounds of nature such as birds.
 - Play a few bird sounds or the flute tune to set the mood.
2. **Group Movement (30 minutes):**
 - Invite students to close their eyes and listen to the music or bird sounds.
 - Instruct them to move freely in the space, allowing their movements to respond to the music.

- Encourage them to incorporate scarves or ribbons to express their movements visually.
3. **Reflection (20 minutes):**
- Have students sit in a circle and share their experiences of how the music influenced their movements.
 - Discuss the connection between music, nature, and self-expression.

Lesson 3: Care for Living Things

Estimated Time: 1 hour

Pedagogical Objectives:

- Understand the importance of caring for living creatures.
- Develop responsibility and empathy.
- Learn basic care techniques for pets.

Materials Needed:

- Birdcage (could be a simple cardboard box with holes)
- Picture cards of birds and their needs (food, water, shelter)
- Small bowls for food and water
- Optional: seeds or bird food

Setup Instructions:

1. Set up a corner of the classroom to mimic a bird habitat with the birdcage (or cardboard box) and bowls.
2. Place picture cards around the area showing different aspects of bird care.
3. Prepare a small amount of bird food to demonstrate feeding.

Lesson Procedure:

1. **Introduction (10 minutes):**
 - Discuss the story of Celeste and the lovebirds given to her by Arthur.
 - Explain the importance of caring for pets and how it relates to responsibility.
2. **Interactive Care Session (30 minutes):**
 - Show students how to properly set up a bird's living space, using the birdcage and bowls as examples.
 - Discuss what birds need in terms of food, water, and shelter using the picture cards.

- Depending on the time available, students can practice setting up the habitat or role-play feeding the birds.

3. Discussion and Conclusion (20 minutes):

- Gather students to share what they learned about caring for living things.
- Discuss how Celeste's actions in the story reflect the importance of empathy and responsibility towards animals.

These three lessons, inspired by Celeste's story, aim to engage upperclass students in creative expression, movement, and responsibility while providing them with practical life skills.