



Activity: Story bag or Story box

Purpose of activity:

This activity gives the child an opportunity to choose one or two objects to develop a recount or a narrative story.

Materials: A prop box or bag containing some interesting and unusual artefacts e.g. an old key, magnifying glass, a crystal, a map, a precious stone, a feather, binoculars, a secret message, a glove puppet, a candle, an unusual coin, a photograph, an old mirror, a Russian doll, a lantern etc.

Procedure:

Tell the children that you are going to make a story about the day they went on an unusual trip. The props in the box will help to create the story.

Ask for suggestions about where the story might be set and how it might start.

Pass the bag/ box around. The children can take out an object and weave a story around what happened and when it was found.

This can begin with just one or two objects to create the story.

When it comes to the plot keep it simple and make sure that what ever is happening in the story matches the child's experiences in some way so that they can relate to the story.

Make it memorable so that the child can retell it. Include First....next....and in the end.

Have a story-telling chair in the classroom to allow the children to retell the story.

Here you can invite lots of discussion about the story. We can also use the framework of this story for shared writing.

Q: 1.Discuss which targets this activity supports.

Q: 2.How would you use this activity?

In class? Small groups? One to one? Home?