

OER: Workshop

Activity

Silence is golden – Storytelling in Pantomime

Story: The Duckling and the Great Guzzleguts | **Method:** Dramatised story

Age group: preschool children from 3 years on | **Groups of:** 15 children

Duration: 45-60 minutes | **Preparation time:** 2 hours

Central topic:

- water as a luxury good
- living area of ducks

Material required:

- enlarged and laminated picture cards from the picture book “The Duckling and the Great Guzzleguts”
- pictures/fotos of pantomimes in action
- enough space to walk around

The aims of this activity are:

- social education: reflection about the balance of powers and social justice
- equal participation for children with different languages
- children will understand body use
- teamwork in small groups

Narrative competencies to be developed:

- non-verbal and verbal communication
- story-telling inspired by pictures
- reading stories out of pictures as well as out of mimicry and pantomime

Step by step approach:

1. Optional: have a meeting with artists, mimes or visit a theatre during the preliminary preparation.
2. Show pictures of a pantomime, explain this art form.
3. Start with a warm-up exercise, for example with “a walk around the room”. Therefore the children are asked to wander around the room – relaxed.
4. Use background music.
5. Give them gradual instructions, slowly. Repeat the instructions and only add one after the other to them. The younger the children, the fewer and simpler the instructions should be. There is only one rule: children are not allowed to speak, to use words.
6. Show the enlarged and laminates picture cards from the picture book.
7. One part of the children tries out to mime the expressions corresponding to the pictures, afterwards the others tell what they recognized, what kind of story was told.
8. Read the story to the children and they can compare their stories to the one in the picture book.
9. End with a short exchange of opinions or a duck-song.

