

CREATIVE DRAMATICS

"Painting a Picture" Meganmarie Pinkerton

- I. Group Goals: Students will focus their attention on the performing groups. Students will work on observation skills to come up with a description of what is happening. Students will work on interpersonal interaction with people in their groups to decide on a scene.
- II. Drama Goals: Students will work on their creativity skills while making scenes using miscellaneous props. They will practice presenting pantomime ideas to the other students. The students will work on their observation skills to decipher what the frozen picture represents. This lesson could be used when students are learning about how to set scenes for stories. They could also use these scenes to write stories for English lessons.
- III. Materials: The teacher will need to gather 3-4 miscellaneous objects for each group and put them in bags to hand out at the beginning of the activity.
- IV. Method and Anticipated Realization of Goals:
Introduction: While students are still seated explain that today they are all going to be painters and creative writers.
 - The teacher explains that they will break the class up into groups of 3 or 4 students. Each group gets a bag of objects found in a scene. When they are in their groups they will come up with ways to use the objects to create/paint and depict a frozen picture, using the objects and all group members, to show the rest of the class. Then a few other people from the class will have a chance to create a story or description to go along with each picture.
 - Break the class up into groups and have them sit on the floor then pass out the objects. "Are there any questions?" Give them 2 minutes to decide how to use the objects and group members to create a picture in their work space. "Remember to use facial expressions and body positions to help show your scene"
 - Once everyone has thought of a scene then one group at a time will come to the front and recreate and present their frozen scene.
 - Then 2 to 4 people from other groups will describe what they think is happening in the scene. "Does anyone think they know what is going on here?" "Who can create a description for this?"
 - Once a few people have described the picture then the next group will come up and show their picture, and it continues on until all the groups have presented.
- V. Closing the Session: Ask questions for evaluation and reflection. What made this activity hard? What are some things that people did to help set the scene? What did you like most about this activity? Was it more fun to paint the scene or describe

the scene, why? What are some other objects that would be fun to use for this activity? What would you change about this activity?

Works Cited

Heinig, Ruth Beall. Creative Drama for the Classroom Teacher. 4th ed. Englewood Cliffs, NJ: Prentice Hall, 1993.

Stewig, John W. Spontaneous Drama: A Language Art. Columbus, OH: Charles E. Merrill Pub. Co., 1973, 103-106.