



Lesson: C-Wright Gestures

Ages: 4th and 5th grade

Supplies needed: Music (optional)

Project Intro: This lesson encourages children to fully explore their imaginations and communicate, not through words, but rather through vocal and physical gestures.

Project steps:

Warm-Up Activity:

- **Gestures**
 - Choose a child to go first (siblings and parents can also participate) and have him/her come up with a gesture that communicates something about themselves. For example, the gesture might show a favorite hobby, sport, activity, or be symbolic – of a personality trait, something of significance to the person. The child uses physical gestures to try and get the others to guess what he/she is communicating.

Here are the rules:

1. Don't make any sounds
2. You may use props or visual aids that are available in your playing area.
3. Pointing to people, animals, or objects is acceptable.
4. You may mouth words silently as long as it is not the word that you are trying to get your teammates to guess.

Drama Activity:

- **Alien Translator**

- In this activity, children (sibling and parents can play as well) will break out into three different characters: Host, Alien and Translator. The Host will ask the Alien questions and the Alien will respond to each question by speaking in made up gibberish and using hand and body gestures. The Translator will then translate what he/she thinks the alien is saying. Each person will rotate rolls so they have a chance to be each character.
- Examples of questions that can be asked by the host:
 - What is your name?
 - What is your gender?
 - What planet are you from?
 - What is the planet made of?
 - What is the national song of your planet? Can you sing it?
 - What is the national dance of your planet? Can you dance it?
 - What do you like to do on your planet?
 - How do you greet visitors who come to visit your planet?

Drama Vocabulary:

Character – who the actor is pretending to be

Gesture – a form of non-verbal communication in which visible bodily actions communicate particular messages, either in place of speech or together and in parallel with spoken words. Gestures include movement of the hands, face, or other parts of the body.

Gibberish – Not a real language; a made-up language using only sounds, but not words

Greeting – offering someone a welcome

Props – items that actors use on stage as part of their production

Translation – Communicating what he/she thinks another person is saying who can't be understood by others.