



Lesson: Object Interactions

Ages: 4th and 5th grade

Supplies needed: Paper and a pen/pencil

Project Intro: This lesson helps children explore how to use props in different “where” environments.

Materials Reference: Teaching Drama, The Essential Handbook (beatbybeat Press)

Project steps:

Warm-Up Activity:

- **Three Objects**
 - Think of several different “where” environments (a place) and write them each out on separate slips of paper. Hand out a slip of paper with one of these environments to every child and family member participating.
 - Ask each participant to pantomime interacting with three specific objects in that environment. (For example, if the environment is “bedroom”, the participant may pretend to go into their closet to pull out a hat, then go to the dresser to put on a belt, and then look at him/herself in the mirror).
 - There should be no talking.
 - The rest of the participants must try to guess what the environment is and what three objects were used.

Drama Activity:

- **Where Conversation**

- Have each participant pair up.
- Each pair needs to choose an environment, and an unrelated topic of conversation.
- The goal of each pair is to have a conversation while continuously interacting with their environment in small, specific ways.
- The conversation **must be** completely unrelated to the environment they are in.
- EXAMPLE 1: Two people discussing the latest Harry Potter movie while taking the bus to school. As they chat they stand on the street with their backpacks, they see the bus arrive, they get on the bus, they look for a seat, they find a seat and maybe wave to a few friends, etc.
- EXAMPLE 2: Two friends are playing tennis while discussing the cute boy at school. We see them grabbing balls from the ground, serving, etc. At one point we see one person win the match, and they high-five “good game”, all while continuing the conversation.
- Give each pair 5 minutes to rehearse their short scene/conversation.
- Have each pair perform their scene and have the other participants guess the environment at the end.

Drama Vocabulary:

Pantomime – when actors express meaning through physical gestures