

Classroom Activities

Activity 1: My Object, My Steps

Objectives

- To enhance learners' creativity by integrating English learning with craft.
- To enable the learners to give instructions in their own words in English.

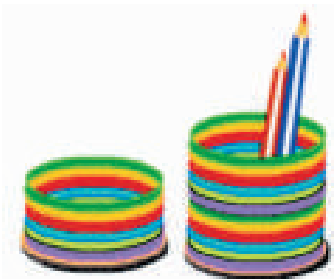
Material

Old bangles of same size, a strong adhesive such as Fevicol, a piece of cardboard and a pair of scissors.

Scope: Middle School learners (Grades VI to VIII).

Procedure

1. The teacher carries a few old bangles of the same size, an adhesive, a piece of cardboard and a pair of scissors to class.
2. He/she encourages the learners to carefully observe the process of making a pen stand using this material (the instructions for making the pen stand have been given below).
3. Once the bangle pen stand is ready, the teacher, along with the learners, discusses the steps involved in making it. The teacher writes these steps on the black board in the given manner.



Step 1: Collect bangles of different colours but of the same size.

Step 2: Use a bangle to draw a circle on the piece of cardboard. Cut out the circle.

Step 3: Now stick one bangle on top of the other using the circular cardboard as the base for your pencil stand.

Step 4: Stick the bangles until you get a height of four inches. Your pencil stand is ready. There is no need to paint or decorate it as it will be the most colourful pencil stand that you will have.

4. The teacher asks the learners to get waste material (for making any object of their choice) the next day.
5. The learners are encouraged to make an object using the waste material.
6. The teacher encourages the learners to write on a piece of paper, the step-by-step instructions for making that object. The teacher acts as a facilitator and helps the students in accomplishing this task.
7. The teacher must display (in the class) all the objects made by the students along with the sheets on which the students have written the instructions for making that object.

Manu Gulati, TGT English in Sarvodaya Kanya Vidyalaya, Panjabi Bagh, New Delhi.

mwadhwa22@yahoo.com

Activity 2: Match the Titles

Objectives

1. To be able to match words
2. Develop the ability to use visual cues in reading

Material

1. Fifty or more books
2. Slips of papers

Scope: This activity can be done with a group of 4-5 children who have recently begun reading.

Preparation

Segregate the books into 3 or 4 categories based on the length of the titles. On each slip, write the title of one book and fold it. If possible, get the children to sit around you and read out the titles you are writing before folding them. Arrange the books category-wise in a line with the cover page visible.

Procedure

- Mix the slips and ask the children to pick one slip each.
- The children need to open the slip and match the title with the book. Ask them to identify the book and then either read out the title or repeat it after you. Change the positions of the books and repeat the activity.

Activity 3: Find the Book

Objective

1. In this activity, the children have to read a small extract from a book and guess the name of the book it has been taken from.

Material

1. Thirty or more books (at least half of these books should be known to the children)
2. Slips of papers

Scope: This is a variation of the above activity, however it is aimed at children who are able to read.

Preparation

Copy a paragraph (around 50 words) from each book on the slips of the papers. This preparation should be done in the absence of the children. Put all the books in a line with the cover page visible.

Procedure

Mix up the slips and ask each child to pick one. At a time two-three children will participate in this game. They have to read the paragraph and

then look at the books and identify the book from which the paragraph has been picked. Children may use visual cues, read the titles of the books, maybe even flip through the pages or start reading the book until they find the paragraph.

QUEST TEAM

QUEST is a school-based support programme of Vidya Bhawan Education Resource Centre being run in some public and private schools of Udaipur, with the aim of improving classroom processes, teacher understanding and proficiency levels in children.

Activity 4: Asking Questions

Objectives

Asking appropriate questions to seek specific information

Grammar: Do you have a/an...? Yes, I have a/an... No, I don't....

Scope: Upper Primary

Preparation

1. Prepare the worksheets as per the given sample.
2. Make enough worksheets for all students in the class.

Procedure

Part A

1. Write a question on the board, for example:
Do you have a red T shirt in your cupboard?
2. Ask this question individually to a random selection of students.
3. Encourage them to answer using the following structure:
Yes, I have a red T shirt in my cupboard.
Or, No, I don't have a red T shirt in my cupboard.
4. For every 'Yes' answer, put a tick (v) against the question on the board.
5. For every 'No' answer put a cross (x) against the question.