Why Do Creative Drama?
   It is a useful tool to teach other things.
   It stimulates creativity and imagination.
   It provides an outlet for self-expression.
   The activities are esteem-building.
   Students, finding it both fun and natural, are successful.
   Children have the opportunity to try on different roles.
   There is a safe environment for expressing feelings, and at times working them through.
   Students can utilize the open-ended activities from whatever level of understanding they have achieved.
   It is community building.

Using Creative Drama.
   Plan activities that are open-ended.
   Gently but firmly limit inappropriate behavior.
   For many activities there are no right or wrong answers.
   Never force a student to play.
   Do it for as short as 5 minutes.
   Be spontaneous or plan ahead.
   When necessary, demonstrate.
   Don’t use your time to guess answers.
   Create a positive atmosphere.
   Applause takes too much time and may not always be useful.
   Enjoy yourself.

Some Games:
Whole Body Movement- Find different ways to move your body from one place to another. Be different things that move from one place to another, such as an animal, a vehicle or a cloud.
Shake Different Body Parts- Call them out one at a time and the children can move, touch or shake them. They can then pretend to be different things that move in similar ways. Example: Child flap their arms and then pretend to be a bird flying. This activity can help young children learn their body parts and gain control of them.
Chair Adventure- Sit on a chair and pretend to be in some of the different places people sit. Do some pretending as if you are actually there. Examples: A spaceship, a dentist’s chair, a covered wagon, a time machine.
Sound Circle or Game- Explore different sounds that a person can make with their body and voices. Think of different objects that have a sound and be those objects. Make up a story and have students do the sound effects or act it out as the objects with sounds.
Listening Games- Listen to sounds around you and see what you hear. Make a tape of familiar sounds and see if students can identify them. Play a song and give them different tasks for different points in the song. The music of Rosenshontz is excellent for this.
Mirror Game- Partners face each other. The mirror tries to move exactly as the leader does.
Statues- Done with a partner. One of them is a lump of clay and the other is the artist building a statues.
**Alphabet Game**- Students become the letters of the alphabet. Don’t worry about accuracy. Then they might try to spell their own names, or vocabulary and spelling words.

**Scarves**- Take turns seeing how many different things you can turn a scarf into (wear it, keep the shape, change the shape.) This can be done with many other objects.

**Three Changes**- Students look you over. They close their eyes and you change three small things about your appearance. They try to guess what you have changed. They repeat the activity with a partner.

**Setting**- Think of a place. Become some of the things or activities that go on there. Record the sounds that you might hear in that place. Tell a story that might happen in that place and have students do the pretending either all together or with specific parts. Let the children make-up a story to act out.

**Touch Games**- Give the students interesting things to touch. What do they remind them of? Create a story. You can do the same kinds of activities with **Smell** and **Taste**.

**Colors**- Pick a color. Give the children paper that is that color and walk around looking for different things that are that color. Think of other things that are that color and pretend to be some of those things. **Hailstones and Halibut Bones** is a wonderful book of poetry that can be used along with these activities. Some of the poems in this book, or some of the children’s ideas might stimulate a story or an adventure that can then be acted out.

**The Seasons**- The children think of the different seasons. You can show them pictures to help them remember. What do they wear? What is the weather like? What do they do? What do they see, hear and smell? What sports do they become involved in? What Holidays come at different times of the year? Then, you can take them through the seasons, and have them pretend that they are doing and experiencing some of these different things.

**A Day**- The children imagine a day, the way they did a season, and they pretend the activities of a day.

**The Solar System**- Set it up using people as planets.

**Feelings Games**- 1. Children look, sound and walk as if they are feeling a certain way.
2. Choose one feeling and discuss it. Then give all of the children the opportunity to act out what makes them feel that way.
Express and use feelings as a jumping off point for pretending.

**Role Playing**- Students have the change to be other people and to explore their own values.

**Points Game**- Students get into the shapes so that they are in contact with the ground in 1 to 10 or more places. They can be viewed as numbers and can do simple math problems.

**Attaching by Body Parts**- Students attach elbow to a partner and change shape with each drum beat. Can be done with other body parts.

**Levels Problem**- 3 people on different levels, with sounds and movements create something that has a central idea.
Machines- Four to six people combine their sounds and movements to make a machine. Variation…Make a conveyor belt machine with half the class being the product and half the machine.

Hidden Sentences- Groups are given a silly sentence. They must hide it in an improvised story. Others try to guess what it was.

Conflict- Explore conflict with the environment, self and others.

Role play situations.

Some Sources of Ideas


Your own Imagination.

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