

Talk about it

SECTION

5

Wash and brush up!

Objective: To explore characters and their actions through role play.

What you need: *Katie Morag and the Two Grandmothers*, hall space, CD player with appropriate Scottish music.

What to do

- Explain that you are going to concentrate on the part of the story where Grannie Island and Katie return to the Post Office to spruce up Alecina ready for the show. This can follow on from the conscience alley activity.
- Read from 'Fortunately, no one was about...' up to '...not to mention this'. Discuss what the two characters did, what they used and what impact their antics had on the state of the bathroom and bedroom (and why Granma Mainland would not have approved!).
- Put the children in pairs – one child takes on the role of Grannie Island, and the other Katie Morag. Give them a few minutes to plan what

actions they are going to mime from this part of the story.

- Explain that when the music is playing they can begin their mime. When the music stops they create a freeze-frame: a still image that illustrates exactly what they were doing. Everybody holds their position while you circulate around the group. When you tap individual children on the shoulder, they must say who they are and what they are doing. The music can then restart and the children recreate a new freeze-frame, progressing until Alecina is ready for the show.

Differentiation

For older/more confident children: Extend the questioning to elicit what the character is thinking and how they are feeling. Encourage the use of powerful verbs and descriptive adjectives.

For younger/less confident children: Encourage children to use appropriate adjectives when they reply to your questions. For example: *What was the towel like? It was soft and fluffy.*

What's going on here?

Objective: To adopt appropriate roles in small groups and consider alternative courses of action.

What you need: *Katie Morag and the Two Grandmothers*, photocopiable page 23, hall space, appropriate props (posh hat, perfume, shoes, dress and so on).

What to do

- Before the lesson, select three children and prepare a freeze-frame of Katie Morag and Grannie Island dressed in Granma Mainland's clothes, spraying perfume and so on. The third child is in role as Granma Mainland returning to touch up her lipstick before the show starts: she is frozen at the point where she enters the room to see the mayhem.
- Sit the class in the hall in a large circle. The three actors create their freeze-frame.

- Ask the children what they think is happening. Once they have established the alternative scenario, explore what Granma Mainland is thinking and what she would say. Extend this to discuss how they think Katie and Grannie Island would react.
- Ask the children to use their ideas to complete photocopiable page 23.
- Finally, establish what actually happened in the story and then discuss how the ending would have been changed if Granma Mainland had discovered what they had been doing.

Differentiation

For older/more confident children: Ask children to prepare a mini scene of the action that would ensue if the freeze frame were to come to life.

For younger/less confident children: Ask children closed questions in the circle-time activity; encourage them to give a reason for their answer.

PAGE
20