First Graders, Superheroes, and Princesses: Bringing Literacy To Life Through Dramatic Play

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Date of Award
5-2011

Degree Type
Thesis

Degree Name
Master of Science in Education (MSEd)

Department
Education and Human Development

Abstract
The purpose of this study was to explore the idea of dramatic play in an emergent literacy classroom. Can dramatic play enhance literacy development? The finding of this research has shown that imaginative play with the students invites them to use knowledge of their play experiences during reading and writing lessons. Students made connections between their play and the characters from the texts. The students also began playing out the story during their free play. As Dyson (1997) stated (as cited in Ahn and Filipenko 2007), "Play allows children to both explore emerging ideas and to create 'possible roles in possible worlds'" (p.14). By using language during their play students can describe other worlds, events and characters. Young children's worlds are filled with diverse stories and experiences that they can bring into their learning. The students work hard at their play. During this study I observed how they became problem solvers, played make-believe, and grew socially through their play and their literacy development. My reluctant readers and writers became excited about writing and reading with other peers. They wanted to write and draw about the characters and make up new stories of their own. Early childhood teachers must remember, play acts as a powerful learning tool that students can use to develop their physical, emotional and social skill and emergent learning abilities around. Children who are offered playtimes during their school day can expand their reading and other academic skills. By inviting the students to explore these characters and literacy activities, I created rich dramatic make-believe play experiences and literacy lessons that enabled students to bring their prior knowledge to make connections to text and real world experiences to life.

Repository Citation
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Through Project Literacy, GOOD and Pearson are building partnerships for a more literate future. Follow the #ProjectLiteracy hashtag and visit good.is or projectliteracy.com to tell us your stories, help us ask the right questions, and take action in your community. More in Project Literacy: All Slideshow Infographic. Project Literacy Design Presented by Project Literacy. You've Probably Seen An Emergency Alert On Your Phone. But Did You Notice How It Was Worded? Bringing Literacy to Life – Table of Contents. Table of Contents. Preface .1 About this book.3 Acknowledgments .6. 5. "Native Language Literacy" demonstrates that using the native language of the learners is a viable approach to introducing literacy to adults who are not literate in their first language. The chapter also describes the various ways in which the native language can be used in the ESL classroom and provides some strategies for discussing with the learners the use of English and/or the native language in the literacy classroom. Tumblr blogger 'VSE OK' introduces us to miniature superheroes in absurd scenarios that accurately reveal their lifestyles and the kinds of relationships they would have with regular people like us. 'VSE OK' has been capturing the hilarious adventures of his miniature friends since 2010. This guy revives Superman and Bruce Lee, who wish only good for those in need; the Hulk, who tries his best to teach people good manners; the Joker, who's hilariously twisted; and more of our favourite super and anti heroes in peculiar plots and everyday environments. Bruce Lee Making Breakfast. Tony Montana A