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www.theatrehullabaloo.org.uk

Bear & Butterfly is produced by Theatre Hullabaloo and Theatre by the Lake
Welcome to the Bear & Butterfly Learning Resource

We hope that you and your children enjoy our production of Bear and Butterfly.

To help you to expand the learning opportunities provided by the experience, we’ve prepared some lesson plans and activities related to the production that we hope you’ll enjoy both inside and outside the classroom.

We believe that the experience of live theatre is an important one for young children in terms of their emotional, social and creative development, but it’s most effective when accessed within a wider learning context with a teacher, shared with a parent and/or other children.

Arts at Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1 is a valuable and enjoyable way for children to develop communication skills, positive social interaction with their peers, physical control and to learn how to listen and respond appropriately.

The simple activities outlined in the resource can support your children’s learning in highly enjoyable ways. They provide opportunities for your children to develop imagination, intellect and empathy, and the self-reliance to become confident, eager and enthusiastic learners.

A Curriculum Framework for Children 4-7 years

Each learning experience focuses on raising achievement with special emphasis on literacy and numeracy whilst recognising the value of free play in an enjoyable and safe learning environment.

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The Story of Bear & Butterfly

The play begins with Bear sat under his tree (his home) as he begins his daily routine. He makes sure he is nice and clean, and makes sure he does his exercises (just like his mother taught him) to keep big and strong and fierce. Just as he is settling down for breakfast, a cheeky Caterpillar starts intruding in Bear’s space. Caterpillar crawls on Bear’s arms, and then up to his head. No matter how many times Bear puts Caterpillar in a safe place, Caterpillar always comes back. Bear soon realises Caterpillar isn’t going anywhere, and from there the friendship begins.

Bear tells Caterpillar of all the adventures he got up to when he was younger. He tells Caterpillar about the time he fought the fiercest bear in the forest – Big Dob Bear and won! But then he later admits that it was his Mum who scared Big Dob Bear. After many stories, Caterpillar becomes very tired and climbs up into the tree to get some rest.

The next morning Bear sees that Caterpillar is still asleep and sleeps all day. Caterpillar is still asleep the morning after that, and the one after that! Each morning, Bear tries to wake Caterpillar up, and collects leaves and prepares gifts to give him, but each time he tries to wake Caterpillar, he is still fast asleep. Bear becomes upset and fearful that Caterpillar has died.

Until one day, a beautiful Butterfly emerges from a cocoon that was Caterpillar’s bed. Butterfly is keen to try out his new wings and have adventures straight away! He encourages Bear to fly too, but after many attempts, they accept that bears cannot fly. So Butterfly flies away on an adventure with his other butterfly friends.

Butterfly returns with lots of stories to tell, which makes Bear very jealous. Bear warns Butterfly not to fly away too much in case he gets eaten by a bird! This scares Butterfly so he stays with Bear. Bear soon realises that Butterfly is unhappy being with him all the time and tells him to go on lots of adventures.

When Butterfly returns it is autumn and the weather is getting a lot colder. Butterfly is getting more and more tired and stays with Bear. Butterfly eventually goes to sleep, and as Bear tells him one final story, Butterfly dies. Bear covers him in a blanket and leaves. Bear settles down for his winter sleep.

Spring returns, and the caterpillars start to arrive once again at Bear’s home. Bear soon befriends one young Caterpillar and begins to tell him his favourite story of Bear & Butterfly...
Activity 1 for Foundation Stage & KS1

Link to Curriculum Framework

- Art & Design
- Design & Technology
- English
- Geography
- PE
- Science

Activity 1a - Nature Walk

You will need - Some string or wool

1) Ask the children to look for a forked stick, or a bendy stick which they can loop around and attach to itself to make a circle at the top.
2) Ask them to weave the wool or string between the forks or loop from one side to the other.
3) When they find objects such as leaves or winged seeds, they can weave them in.
4) Collect some additional objects for use back in class.

Activity 1b - The Leaf Storm

This is probably best done on a dry day.

1) Ask the children to collect leaves and to make a large pile. They’re going to use their feet to make the sound of a forest storm.
2) They should stand with one foot buried in the pile of leaves.
3) Ask them to pick up a small handful of leaves and wait for the storm to arrive.
4) Tell the story of Bear and Butterfly’s Windy day with the children creating the noise of the storm.

“One lovely day in Bear and Butterfly’s forest a gentle breeze blew through the leafy tree tops.”
Instruct the children to start to gently rustle the leaves with their feet.

“The wind began to get stronger and stronger and butterfly was blown this way and that. Eventually he had to land on bear’s hand for protection from the gale”
Ask the children to begin to rustle the leaves a little bit more loudly.

“Then the leaves started to dance on the wind and to swirl around and around Bear’s head.”
At this point ask the children to throw their handful of leaves in the air.

“The big wild wind had arrived and even Bear found it difficult to stand upright in such a harsh storm!”
The children should crunch through and kick up the leaves as loudly as possible.

“After a while the stormy wind quietened down and the forest was calm, and Bear and Butterfly could walk and flitter and flutter through the forest once more”
The children return to rustling the leaves quietly and then to standing still, in silence.
Activity 2 for Foundation Stage & KS1

Link to Curriculum Framework

- Science

You will need - The Man-made or Natural Template

Using the template, ask the children to consider which of the items are man-made and which are natural and to classify appropriately.
Activity 3 for Foundation Stage & KS1

Link to Curriculum Framework

- Art & Design

Activity 3A

Using a large piece of cardboard ask the children to create their own woodland scene, you can use the natural objects gathered on your forest walk, or man-made objects – or a combination of both. Ask the children to make their own Bear Den out of card or papier-mâché and / or doll’s house furniture to stand in the woodland.

Activity 3B

Alternatively make a large wall hanging collage and create a Bear’s Den Creative Play area to stand in front of it.

Activity 3C - Seasons in The Forest

Spring flowers

You will need:

- Green card
- Paper
- Glue
- Scissors
- Sticky tape
- Crayons, felt tip pens or paint.

How to Make:

1) Give each child a sheet of green A4 card. They need to cut this into strips that reach halfway down the sheet. These will make the flower stems so they shouldn’t be too thin.
2) Ask the children to draw flower heads and cut them out. They can be all different sizes and colours, really imaginative and colourful.
3) A flower head should be stuck onto the end of each strip of paper.
4) Curl the paper around and stick the two edges together so that you end up with a cylinder of paper flowers.
5) Curl down the flowers carefully, so that they all droop outwards - and look just like a clump of flowers in a forest.

Summer Sunflowers

You will need:

- Yellow card
- Black card
- Green card
- A large sheet of blue card
- Scissors
- Glue
- Pencil
**How to Make:**

1) Instruct the children to cover their palm and wrist with brown paint
2) Stamp onto the paper with fingers spread wide to form the tree's branches
3) When the paint is dry, they can stick on lots of "leaf" stickers or coloured paper to make the tree look like it is covered in autumn leaves

**Autumn Trees**

You will need:
- Brown paint
- Paper
- Round stickers in yellow, red and orange
- Autumn’s shades coloured paper

**How to Make:**

1) Instruct each child to trace around their hand on a piece of yellow card and cut it out
2) Arrange the cut outs of the hands in a circle (to look like a sunflower)
3) Cut out a small circle of black card
4) Glue the black circle into the middle of the circle of hands
5) Glue the entire flower onto the blue card
6) Cut a strip of green card for the stem and attach it to the card
7) Use green more of the green card for the grass
8) Trace hands onto green paper and cut out
9) Attach 2 green hands to the stem to look like leaves

**Winter Snowflakes**

You will need:
- A square of white paper
- Scissors

**How to Make:**

1) Fold the square of paper into a triangle and then fold it again
2) Make cuts into the edges of the triangle. Make sure not to cut all of the way across the paper
3) Leave some of the folded edge so that the snowflake doesn't fall apart
4) Carefully unfold the paper to see the snowflake

**Activity 3D**

- Talk about the Seasons and the different weather that each season has
- What sorts of clothes do you need to wear for each type of weather?
- Invite the children to write a poem about the day when Bear and Butterfly got caught in the rain
Activity 4 for Foundation Stage & KS1

Link to Curriculum Framework

- English
- Art & Design

Activity

This activity will help your children to develop to think creatively and to use their imaginations and develop creative writing.

Bear loves telling stories and Butterfly loves to listen. Write and illustrate a short story on ‘Bear’s Forest Adventure’ or ‘Bear & Butterfly go on a journey’.

1) Pick 3 of the items from the Story Start Template and put them into your story on the Story Writing Template
2) For Older KS1 Children
   Using the Story Writing Template
   a. Write a rough copy (draft copy) on the template provided
   b. Go over it and make changes (revise it)
   c. Write it out neatly (final copy)
Activity 5 for Foundation Stage & KS1

Link to Curriculum Framework
- English
- Design & Technology

Activity 5a - Making Finger Puppets

You will need:
- Images below
- Scissors
- Glue or tape

How to make:
1) Print out the page onto paper or card (if card miss out step 2)
2) Stick the paper to a piece of card
3) Cut out the characters and strips
4) Create a ring to put round your finger by wrapping the strips around your finger and taping or gluing the ends closed
5) Glue the character to the front of the strip
Activity 5b - Taking Bear & Butterfly Finger Puppets for a Walk

Take Bear and Butterfly around the Bear’s Den describing everything that you see. What would they be most interested in?

Activity 5c - Finger Puppet Role Play

Working in pairs ask one of the children to play the part of Bear, that child puts on the finger puppet of Bear and the other to play the part of Butterfly, that child puts on the finger puppet of butterfly.

Ask the children to work in role and to have a conversation about all of the things they’ve done today, what they’ve seen, how they feel.

- What would Bear and Butterfly do that was different from each other?
- What might they do that was the same?
Activity 6 for Foundation Stage & KS1

Link to Curriculum Framework

- Art & Design
- Mathematics

Activity 6a - Make a Colourful Butterfly

You will need craft supplies such as:

- Coloured paper
- Pens
- Pencils
- Finger Paints
- Glue
- Glitter
- Pom-poms

Using the Butterfly Template, invite the children to colour it in and stick things to it. Using coloured paper, pens, pencils or finger paints. Ask them to be as imaginative and creative as possible.

Activity 6b - Use the Butterfly Template

Invite the children to decorate the butterfly with a certain number of spots. For older children ask them to pair up and to add up the total number of spots there are on their butterflies when they’ve finished.
Activity 2 - Man-made or Natural

Classify each object found in Bear’s Den. Is it natural or man-made?
Activity 4 - Story Start Template
Activity 4 - Story Writing Template
Activity 6b - Butterfly Template
Additional Activity: The Life Cycle of a Butterfly

A butterfly lays an egg on a leaf and a little while later a caterpillar hatches from the egg. The caterpillar needs lots of food to grow. It eats the green leaves on a plant. It eats and eats until it is time to build a chrysalis.

Inside the chrysalis, the caterpillar slowly turns into a butterfly. When the butterfly emerges from the chrysalis, it dries its wings in the sunshine before it flies away.

Activity

Fill in the gaps with the words below to explain how a caterpillar turns into a butterfly.

chrysalis  eggs  leaves  case  wings  butterfly  caterpillars

The adult butterfly finds a leaf on which to lay her ____________.

Little ____________ come out of the eggs.

The caterpillars eat the ____________ until they grow bigger.

Then the caterpillar turns into a ____________.

After about two weeks, the ____________ of the chrysalis splits and a ____________ comes out.

The butterfly lets its ____________ dry in the sun and then it flies away.
Additional Activity: The Life Cycle of a Butterfly

Match the words below to their pictures

Butterfly   Eggs
Chrysalis   Caterpillar
Facts about Caterpillars

Caterpillars are born very small, eat lots and then transform into beautiful butterflies or fantastic moths.

The life span of a caterpillar is between 2 and 4 weeks.

Other creatures that eat caterpillars (predators) include birds, wasps, small mammals and other caterpillars.

Caterpillars sense touch through their antennae and also through their tiny hair, called setae, which are all over their bodies.

Caterpillars have eight pairs of legs and six pairs of eyes.

Facts about Butterflies

Butterflies have four wings.

Scientists estimate there are between 15,000 – 20,000 different types of butterfly in the world.

Most butterflies feed on nectar from flowers.

They have a special glue to stick their eggs to leaves.

Facts about Bears

Bears are large mammals that mostly eat meat and fish. Some bears also eat plants, bulbs and insects.

There are only 8 species of bear living in the world.

The Giant Panda is a species of bear. Pandas only eat bamboo.

Bears have large, stocky bodies, snouts, big paws with claws and short tails. Even though they are heavy they are good at running and swimming.

Bears have a long sleep in the winter similar to hibernation. They sleep in dens.
Enjoy reading *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* by Eric Carle with the class.

**The Story**

A small caterpillar emerges from an egg and begins eating everything in sight. Finally, it is no longer hungry and no longer small. The big, fat caterpillar builds a chrysalis around himself and finally emerges as a beautiful butterfly. *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* is unique in that it actually has the holes eaten by the caterpillar.

**Introducing The Book**

Here are a few strategies for introducing the book to the class:

**Cover Story**
Display the book and invite children to describe the caterpillar.

**Ask:** Does he look happy? How do you think the artist made this caterpillar? Read aloud the title and ask: Why do you think the caterpillar is so hungry?

**Page Flip**
Invite children to flip through the pages of *The Very Hungry Caterpillar*.

**Ask:** What do you notice that's different about this book? Talk about the holes in the pages and the different sized pages. Tell the class that the author made the book this way on purpose. Ask children to

**Building Background**

Ask children what they know about caterpillars.

*Have they ever seen one? Held one? How did it feel? What happens to caterpillars?*

Begin a K-W-L (What We Know, What We Want to Know, What We Learn) Chart on poster paper. List children's knowledge in the first column and their questions in the second. After reading the story, revisit the chart to add information to the third column. You might also wish to have some nonfiction books on caterpillars and butterflies on hand to augment children's knowledge.
THE VERY HUNGRY CATERPILLAR BY ERIC CARLE

READING THE BOOK

Try using these ideas after you have read the book at least once with the class.

BASIC CONCEPTS

Counting
Invite children to count out the food that the hungry caterpillar eats each weekday.
Ask: How many things does he eat on Saturday? How many more things is that than he ate on Friday?

Days of the Week
Write the days of the week on the chalkboard and have children tell what the caterpillar does on each day. Ask volunteers to identify each day of the week on a calendar.

Back and Front
Point out that the short pages of the book show both the front of the fruit on one side and the back of the fruit on the other. Ask children to point out other examples of back and front in the classroom (books, classmates, chairs).

Changes
Review the changes that the caterpillar undergoes. Then ask if children can think of other things that change.

AFTER READING THE BOOK

Try these ideas to extend children’s understanding and appreciation of the story.

MAKING CATERPILLARS AND BUTTERFLIES

Children can have fun retelling the story with their own caterpillars and butterflies.

To Make Caterpillars: use discarded egg cartons, pipe cleaners, paints or markers.
1. Cut apart a carton to make a six-hump caterpillar.
2. Paint the carton including a face on one end.
3. Poke two holes for antennae and insert pipe cleaners.

To Make Butterflies: Write use basket shaped coffee filters, paints, pipe cleaners.
1. Fold the filter in half, then open it again.
2. Drip paint on the centre fold. Let it spread and dry.
3. Pinch the filter in the centre, then wrap a pipe cleaner around it to be the butterfly’s body.