

A seaside role play

Objectives

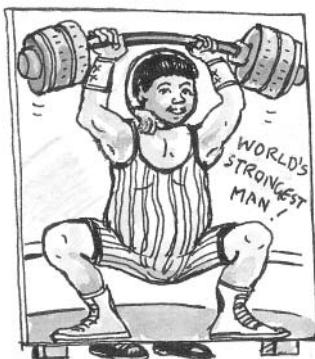
- To communicate their knowledge of seaside holidays in the past through role play.
- To find out about seaside holidays in the past using historical enquiry.

Vocabulary

pier, bathing machines, promenade, Punch and Judy, beach, camera, photograph, sand, donkey

Resources

Enlarged photographs of seaside scenes from the 1900s or a schools video programme; list of seaside scenes; reference books; group task cards; costumes.



Links

NC English KS1: En1 (1) to speak clearly and with confidence; (2) to listen and respond to others; (3) to join in as members of a group; (4b) to create and sustain roles.

S&L Y2 T1: Drama: adopt appropriate roles in small or large groups.

Background

Role play and drama is generally enjoyed by children and positively commented upon by Ofsted. Structured role play in history can help promote empathy, imagination and allow children to actively re-create the past. Effective role play, however, should be underpinned by careful historical enquiry based on children gaining knowledge of the issue by using resources such as stories, television, photographs, reference books or the internet.

Introduction

- Show the children some examples of different seaside scenes from, for example, the 1900s, using enlarged photographs or a schools video programme on seaside holidays; ensure these stimuli include some drama activities, for example, people walking on the promenade, having their photograph taken or buying an ice-cream.
- Ask the children what is taking place, where and who is involved. Are any artefacts being used? What might the people be saying?
- Explain to the children that they will be working in groups to create their own role play about the seaside in the past.

Main teaching activity

- Give the children examples of seaside scenes that the groups are to focus upon, such as visiting the pier, playing on the beach and walking on the promenade.
- Take one of these scenes and use a photograph to discuss what is happening. Ask the children what they might do to re-create the scene. Discuss the different roles of the people involved and what they might say. Encourage the children to think about actions, artefacts and costumes that could be used.
- Explain that each group will have a photograph, reference book and task card to help them with the activity.
- Split the class into groups allocating them a seaside scene. Give support to each group, ensuring that they discuss the scene carefully and plan out a simple role play in which all members participate.
- Children will need an opportunity to practise their role play and groups will clearly benefit from close support, including the teacher actually modelling conversations and actions from their scene.

Plenary

- Groups can present their role play to the rest of the class. Encourage the children to think about what each role play shows about seaside holidays in the past.

Differentiation

Mixed-ability groups will be useful with this activity, allowing children to pool their skills and support each other.