



ELLA

The European Hungry Caterpillar

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Introduction

Ella, the European Hungry Caterpillar is a book created in school year 2011-2012.

It presents traditional food and flags of twelve European countries.

Aim

To induce creativity by using pre-acquired knowledge.

Objectives

- ✓To consolidate pre-taught language (colours, food, sweets, drinks and butterfly's life cycle).
- ✓To activate knowledge.
- ✓To enhance cross-cultural understanding and awareness.
- ✓To create a cross-thematic lesson (English, Environmental Studies, Geography, Art).
- ✓To learn new vocabulary.
- ✓To motivate and engage pupils in the learning process.
- ✓To stimulate class discussion.
- ✓To encourage collaborative learning.
- ✓To support creative expression.

Skills

- ✓Listening
- ✓Speaking
- ✓Story telling
- ✓Comparing - contrasting
- ✓Collaborating
- ✓Drawing skills

Procedure

Pre-taught A' class PEAP activities:

B4-Colours

B7-Food and sweets

B10-Nelly, the small caterpillar

Background knowledge: "Amazing Blue Europe" Comenius programme

STEP 1

T. reads the story "The very hungry caterpillar" by Eric Carle.

T. stimulates class discussion on the story using the pictures of the book.

STEP 2

Presentation of traditional food from twelve European countries:

T. presents a cook book with recipes from around Europe.

T. starts a class discussion on the differences and similarities of eating habits and traditional food of European countries.



Procedure

Ss. are divided in groups. They choose a type of food. The teacher provides the pupils with sheets of paper and coloured pencils to draw.

STEP 3

Presentation of flags:

T. presents the countries on a map and their flags.

T. starts a class discussion on the colours of the flags.

Ss. are divided in groups. They choose a flag. The teacher provides the pupils with flag templates to colour.

STEP 4

Development of the storyline:

Ss. match the food drawings with the flags and describe the picture. Their language output can be in L1.

T. enriches the storyline with time expressions, connectors, adjectives etc.

TIME: 4 teaching hours

Outcomes

Language learning outcomes:

Vocabulary related to colours, food, butterfly, countries, Wh- questions, am/is/are

Pedagogical outcomes:

Learning to cooperate with their classmates

Developing skills (language, collaborative, artistic, story-telling , etc.)

Understanding multi-culturalism

Hands-on activities to create a book

Presentation of the book in a Comenius programme

References

PEAP, Teaching-Learning Materials, A grade, Cycle B: Activities B4, B7, B10. Available at <http://rcel.enl.uoa.gr/peap> (Accessed :7th June 2013)

Carle, E. (1987). "The very hungry caterpillar". New York: Philomel Books

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