

Lesson Plan 15 Title: "Let's observe our surroundings"

Concept / Terminology / Topic to Teach: Observe, get inspired.

Class Goal(s)/Objectives: There is a lot of discussion regarding how much inspiration and creativity observing our environment is stimulating. Most of us are so used to our environment we are not even identifying fundamental engineering features that exist around us. In today's class we want the children to observe engineering features in their surrounding that maybe used as inspiration to their project.

Required Materials: 2 gender neutral puppets, a camera.

Setting: Classroom, Large group time, small group time.

Step-By-Step Procedures: During large group time you will start with revisiting what happened in the last classes (always using the puppets that are talking about it). Then Andy will propose to Sam and the children that they can go for a walk and try to identify what other engineers have done to solve a problem similar to theirs. Pick up a target for observation for the children (i.e. garage buildings for Sam's cars), so that they will have an observation goal in their walk. Have a camera to take photos of all the possible "solutions" that may appear.

Andy: You know guys!! I know we have already gotten some ideas about what to do with cars, but what about we go for a walk, and try to see what else people are driving and where are parking their vehicles!!

Plan For Independent Practice: There is not going to be a small group activity in class, but during the walk, and if time allows for it, you are encouraged to break children in small groups and discuss what they are seeing around them.

VERY IMPORTANT:

Send letters to the parent regarding data collection that has to take place at home. Children will present the information gathered in Lesson 17.

Closure (Reflect Anticipatory Set): End the class by revisiting the things and possible solutions children have encountered during their walk.

Assessment Based On Objectives: Since this is a group walk and discussion we are assessing group participation here. children should have come up with observing at least three different engineering solutions to the problem given.

Possible Connections To Other Subjects: motor skills improvement, language (while discussing the elements observed), reasoning, math (by counting the solutions), science (by identifying possible materials used).