**The Den**

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| **CEFR Level and Skill(s):** | A2 Spoken production |
| **CEFR Competence(s) Aimed at:** | Summarizing what students have read or heard |
| **Art form(s) Exploited:** | Dance, visual arts, music |
| **Duration of the Activity:** | 2 x 45 min (more if performing) |
| **Materials and Equipment Needed:** | Arts and crafts equipment:  The story about The Den  A stick  Textiles, green and yellow  Digital media:  Music device |
| **PROCEDURE** **Introduction:** The aim of the lessons is to practice the spoken language by reading a story about a den. To make the story more interesting the students will make dance moves to different lines in the story. **Preparation:** Prepare keywords and phrases in English that the children will need to understand the story. Make copies of the story to all students. The second lesson needs two teachers if there are many students. Depending on the language level of the group the teacher can choose to read the story while the students are dancing. It it also possible to let the students read and learn different phrases to say during the dance. The dance makes it possible for the teacher to let all students participate even if they do not want to have any speaking roles. **Activities**:Module 1. Reading and summarizing the story.  1. The students read the story (from Majema’s Learn English 3).  There are a couple of lines in each page, 16 pages in the book. 2. Translate the story and pick out keyword that will be used:   The children were playing by the stream. Wilf had an idea. Wilf found some sticks. “Let’s make a den,” he said. “Put the sticks like this”. They all found some sticks. Chip found lots of branches and Wilma found some straw. Biff found some firewood.  “We can sit on them inside the den”, she said. The children sat in the den but it began to rain. The rain splashed into the den.  “I’m getting wet”, said Kipper. “We’re all getting wet”, said dad. “It’s time to go”. “Can we come back soon?” asked Biff. It rained all week. The children couldn’t go out to play. They wanted the rain to stop. They wanted to go back to the den. The rain stopped. The children went back to the den. “Oh no!” said Wilma. “We can’t play in the den!” “Shh!” said Wilf. “ There is a swan laying on her eggs”   1. End Module 1 by asking the students to make a picture of something from the story.  Module 2. Create a dance from the story.  1. Repeat the story. 2. Summarize the story together with the students. Talk about what different moves there can be to the leading words: happiness, sun, excursion. Continue to talk about other moves that could appear if you dance the story. Let the students use their imagination to add different movements. 3. If needed (i.e. a large number of students): divide the group into two. 4. The teacher decides which students will represent *the sun, water, trees, sticks, rain, wind, swan, father and children*. (See considerations below.) 5. The teacher decides whether who should read phrases from the story during the dance 6. Guidelines for the dance:   *The 5 children* and *the father* are out walking. A group of students illustrate *water* movements.  Leading words are *happiness, sun* and *excursion*.  *One child* (Wilf) has a stick and holds it up to show that she has an idea. *The other 4 children* and *the father* form a ring and reach out their hands towards her to stress their interest in the idea.  The *water* transforms to *trees* and *sticks* (more sticks than trees).  *The family* gathers and a little den is constructed; with their imagination and with movements around *the trees,* *sticks* are rolled into the space for seats and for a fire. (The students can add green and yellow textiles to fulfill the illusion)  *The family* sits down in the den.  *The sticks* make movements to illustrate an upcoming rain.  *The father* collects his *5 children* and they leave the den.  *The family* sits behind a window and the other students turn into *rain* and *wind*.  *The sun* rises and the *rain* turns into a *den* again.  *The family* returns to the den.  *One child* (Wilma) expresses that they cannot enter.  *The swan* is presented.  *The children* peek into their little construction and there is *the swan* in her nest lying on her eggs.  Put on some music, dance the story and enjoy!  Module 3. Show *(Optional)*  The dance can be shown to other students or to the parents, perhaps with an exhibition of the pictures from Module 1. | |
| **Things to consider (Precautions, safety measures, appropriate for larger groups, space needed etc):** | Enough space in order to work freely.  Two teachers if the group is large.  Suggestion: Slow mild music (relax)  Consider the distribution of roles. If you know the students well you might know who is suitable for each role. You could also use a pack of cards with numbers and colours  Consider the different advantages depending on who is reading the story when dancing: Either the students (at different levels) read individual lines and get the opportunity to train to speak out loud in front of others or the students can listen to the story (repeatedly) read by the teacher and get the opportunity to learn the story by heart. |
| **Prerequisites for the teacher :** | The story ‘The Den’ |
| **Source(s) / Useful links:** | https://www.majema.se/paket-engelska-bilderbocker-ar-3 |