

Erasmus+ Project "SWOT Scouts" 2018-1-ES01-KA229-049952

Development of Social Intelligence

Aspects of emotional competence covered: Social skills

Educational level: Primary Education, Secondary Education, Higher Education

Source: Own authorship / Vlasta Kovačević Herzog

Duration: 50 min.

Ceramics Workshop

INTRODUCTION:

Working with clay is considered highly stress-reducing. By focusing on the two senses of vision and touch we can achieve a type of "rest" from the current problems, and by stepping back from them we can come to a resolution of a problem – we get insight "outside of the box". The material is moldable and the results are visible after a short time, reducing the sense of frustration, in other words the result gives pleasure and strengthens the self. In a relaxed atmosphere (safe space, comfortable surroundings) and with the goal that is not directly connected with emotional intelligence, it becomes possible to informally work on individual problems or on reinforcing the group through free interaction of the participants. Development of creative processing and visual-tactile thinking, two categories closely related to emotional intelligence, is an essential part of this work.

OBJECTIVES:

- to produce an object made of clay
- to develop a positive attitude towards shaping material in participants
- to boost motivation for this type of work on self
- to strengthen the personality
- development of creativity
- reinforcement of group cohesion

PREPARATION:

- *Materials & resources:*

Clay, molding tools

Models for the theme – in this case we were making symbols of *glagoljica*, and we prepared the glagoljica alphabet

PROCEDURE:

Step 1:

Type of interaction: frontal / 10 min.

Description:

- The presenter explains the basics of working with clay
- Written materials about the theme (in this case glagoljica) are passed along, or a video presentation about the theme is shown

- The motive is approached through short introduction about the content and the actual assignment

Step 2

Type of interaction: individual / 30 min.

Description:

Working with the material. The participants choose a motive (one letter of the glagoljica alphabet) and make it in the form of a pendant. The technique is individually explained, depending on the assignment and the individual's skill level.

Step 3

Type of interaction: whole group / 10 min.

Description:

Participants display the final products next to each other in the display area. They are encouraged to comment their own and others' work.

Questions:

What were you trying to achieve? Are you satisfied with what you've accomplished? How does it feel working with clay?

Do you particularly like someone else's work? Why?

How does your work fit with the others? How do the works function as a whole?

EXTENSION:

The final products can be dried, additionally made smooth using a sponge or sandpaper and baked in the ceramics kiln.

In a relaxed atmosphere (safe space, comfortable surroundings) and with the goal that is not directly connected with emotional intelligence, it becomes possible to informally work on individual problems or on reinforcing the group through free interaction of the participants.

COMMENTS:

Development of creative processing and visual-tactile thinking, two categories closely related to emotional intelligence, is an essential part of this work.