

Key Stage 1 / Key Stage 2 Assembly

Looking and Listening

Year group: Foundation / Key Stage One / Key Stage Two

Resources: Have something unusual in the room where the assembly is being used. This need not be anything dramatic, just something that would not normally be there. It could be an object or a person - perhaps a member of staff who doesn't normally come into assembly like the caretaker or secretary; a CD of sound effects and natural sounds.

Assembly plan

Aims

To help the children to develop observational and aural skills.

Introduction

Tell the children that there is something different about the assembly today, you are not going to tell them what it is - you will tell them at the end.
Ask everyone to be quiet and just listen for 30 seconds and see what sort of sounds can be heard.

Main presentation

Go through with the children the different sounds they could hear; they might have heard traffic outside the school, a telephone ringing, meals being prepared in the kitchen etc.

Now play a game using the CD of sound effects, you could use two teams and play it like a quiz. Emphasise the importance of listening.

To keep ourselves safe we must interpret a lot of clues - some of these are what we see and some are what we hear. When we cross the road what must we do?

STOP, LOOK, LISTEN, THINK

Of course you know you need to stop at the kerb but do you know what you are looking and listening for? Then you need to think about what you do next.

Ask the children to tell you what they are looking and listening for.

Go through several scenarios of crossing a road.

Finally ask if anyone has noticed what was different in the assembly.

Point out that unless they are told what they are looking for it can be hard and this is why it is important to know what to look and listen for and how to react to what is seen and heard.

Reflection

Ask the children to think about their journey to school and how many times it is important that they look and listen to what is going on around them. Tell them to think about the sights and sounds they usually see or hear, and how they can use these things to make their journey safe.

Notes

When children first learn to cross the road, using stop, look, listen, think they often only go through the motions without actually doing any of them. This can be because they don't know what they are actually looking or listening for. This assembly provides an opportunity to reinforce previous teaching.