



Writing

Students prepare a scenario for a shadow play.

The students are divided into groups of 3-4 members each.

Hand out the following to each group:

- cards with the titles of plays written on them, for which the pupils draw lots and for which they then invent an interesting scenario;
- five cards with key words written on them. To add spice to the team work, the key words must appear in each of the stories they invent;
- blank sheets of paper and a pen.

The task for each group is to compose a short, five-minute play on the theme they have drawn lots for and to use the five key words in it.

Students write down their ideas for the story and dialogue. They should also think about what the shadow puppets in their performance will look like. They divide the roles among them - which character is each person going to play?

Allow the children a free choice in choosing their storyline and assigning roles. Set a definite time limit for the task.



Creative expression

Students make the characters for their scenarios - the shadow puppets.

**Materials:**

- wire,
- barbecue stick,
- a stiff sheet of paper from a drawing pad,
- scissors,
- a sponge or washing-up pad,
- wood glue,
- transparent adhesive tape,
- string.

**Instructions:**

**Non-moving shadow puppet** (the easier version)

A shadow puppet made from thin pliable wire – this is easy to bend and shape so that with your hands and your imagination you can create the skeletal outline of your invented shadow puppet. Again using the wire, attach a long barbecue stick to the puppet you have made. You will use this to hold the puppet during the animation and while playing the role.

A paper shadow puppet – sketch the outline of the invented shadow puppet on a very stiff sheet of paper from a drawing pad and then cut it out with scissors. Next, cut out a small 2cm x 2cm square from a sponge or washing-up pad and stick it to the center of your figure using wood glue. Later, push a barbecue stick gently into the pad. You can also attach the barbecue stick with transparent adhesive tape.

**Moving shadow puppet** (more difficult version)

A paper shadow puppet – sketch the outline of your invented shadow puppet on a sheet of very stiff paper from a drawing pad. Separately, however, make additional sketches of two features that you would like to be able to move (e.g. hands or feet). Cut out all of these features, attach a small square from a sponge or washing-up pad to the body of the shadow puppet using wood glue, then gently push a barbecue stick into that piece of sponge or pad. Use string to connect the moving elements so that they form a functioning whole.

