

The Day War Came

Lesson 3: War Came

Aim:

To examine how and why war might happen and how it might feel, physically and emotionally

Focus theme for this lesson

War

Themes Explored

1. School
 2. War
 3. Feelings: Loss
Despair
- Being alone

Duration:

30 minutes approx

Skills developed:

Sharing
Exploring senses
Working Together

Expressive Arts Skills:

Creating Soundscape
Imaginative Response
Thinking in role

E's and O's: Refer to Overview

Resources:

1. Chairs for everyone
2. A31
3. Access to general classroom objects (including musical objects if desired)

4. Recording/video equipment (optional)

War Came – Sound Scape: 30 minutes

a) Then, just after lunch, war came.
At first, just like a spattering of hail.
a voice of thunder
then all smoke and fire and noise that I didn't understand.

b) It came across the playground,
It came into my teacher's face.
It brought the roof down
and turned my town to rubble

Task: Look at the picture from the book on the page these words are written on. Children close their eyes and listen to these words read by the teacher. They should be encouraged as they listen to think about the words and then asked if they can feel or taste or see or hear anything else in their mind as this listen, but not to share these just yet.

(At this stage, you may want to discuss the reasons for war or this can be left until the additional activities)

Task: In the story, war is written about as if it is a 'being' – something alive with a voice. In pairs, look at Activity Sheet 3.1.

Discuss the noises that war makes which are written on the sheet, and then write down any more sounds you think these noises **might** make and what **might** cause them. Share these with the rest of the class. Also write down what these sounds might make you **feel**.

Using the sounds from the story and the others you have listed, you are going to create a **sound-scape**:

Task: Find objects in the classroom and/or use musical instruments that create the noises that the girl heard and that you wrote about.

Discuss: As a class or in your pairs, you can discuss what to use. Maybe chairs, the floor, your hands – lots of objects. Each pair can be responsible for making their chosen sound with the object or instrument.

Task: The children can decide what sounds come when and when it should change sound and volume. The teacher, or a pupil, could orchestrate the making of the sounds to create a soundscape which could be recorded. This can be used as the background for the next task.

'The Day War Came'

Lesson 3: Activity Sheet 1

With your partner, think of words to describe the sounds created below. Write these in the space provided. What do you think might cause these noises? Write these down as well.

Spattering of hail:

Voice of thunder:

Smoke:

Fire:

*Noise that I didn't understand:
Think of other noises that you might hear.*