



Creepy Creatures

K-3 Classroom Activities

Eeeuuu! What's that?

Objective

Using the sense of touch, students will describe and try to guess the identity of hidden objects.

Before Class Preparation

1. Cut a slot in the top of the shoe box large enough to fit student's hand. Glue square of material on inside of lid over slot. Cut material to open slot again. Material hides contents of box while student pushes hand in.
2. Peel grapes.
3. Spray vegetable oil on cooked spaghetti
4. Assemble touch boxes by placing one item in each box. Tape lids on boxes. Place boxes around room.

Action

1. Begin activity with a class discussion. Ask students to name a scary animal or sound, or something they've felt. Ask students to describe using adjectives. If readers, write the words on the board.
2. Divide class into groups to match number of shoe boxes. Begin with equal or almost equal number of students for each box.
3. One at a time, ask students to reach in to **touch** the mystery item. Can they identify? What does it feel like.? Ask student to remember feelings. For older students, ask them to draw the image they feel. Can they guess the name of the item?
4. If time allows, rotate the class through all the shoe boxes. For younger students with short attention spans, each group could feel only one box.
5. After feeling, ask students to be seated and begin a class discussion. What did students feel? How did it feel? What was most scary? Hardest to identify?
6. Open boxes and show students the items inside. Are any of the items scary? Do students who were afraid want to touch again? Was it more scary when students didn't know than now that students do know?

Deeper Depths

Read a story about a sea monster. At the conclusion, ask student if they were frightened? Now show picture of giant squid. Scientists don't know much about this animal and are searching for one to study. For more information see <http://seawifs.gsfc.nasa.gov/squid.html> or <http://partners.si.edu/squid/> or the book *The Search for Giant Squid* by Richard Ellis ISBN: 0140286764

Materials

4 shoe boxes with lids
10 grapes 1 cup cooked,
cooled spaghetti
1 cup cold gelatin
soft rubber spider
rubber snake
spray vegetable oil
scissors
heavy scrap fabric
garbage bags for clean up