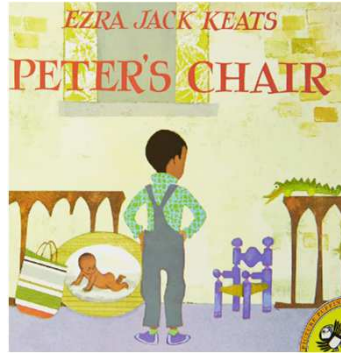




Sign Making



Materials:

- images of signs (see Resources)
- variety of paper
- writing utensils
- scissors
- craft sticks
- Tape
- pre-cut shapes (circle, square, triangle, octagon, rectangle)
- Unit blocks
- Cars and people figures

Vocabulary:

- sign
- information: something that you know
- letter
- communicate: tell someone something

Preparation:

Set up materials.

Intro to Centers:

“We learned about birth announcements in Let’s Find Out About It. We discussed how Peter’s family might have created a birth announcement to tell people Susie was born. **Signs** are another way of **communicating**--telling--**information**. What do you notice?”

“Today in Writing and Drawing, you can make **signs** with these materials. **Signs** can be pictures, words, or both pictures and words.”

“What materials could I use to make a stop **sign**?”

“Now, I will write ‘stop.’ What **letter** does the word ‘stop’ begin with?”

“Even if I couldn’t read these **signs**, how would I know these are stop **signs**?”

Show birth announcements.

Show images of signs.

Children respond.

Show materials.

Children respond. Model.

Model. Children respond.

Show images of stop signs.

Children respond.

During Centers:

Support children in using a variety of materials to create their signs. Support children in writing words or drawing pictures for their signs. Encourage children to build roads and buildings and use their signs. Encourage children to notice other signs in the classroom. Discuss the information the signs communicate. Encourage children to use their signs in other centers such as Dramatization.

Guiding Questions during Centers:

- Where else have you seen signs, i.e., around school/your neighborhood?
- How are signs helpful?
- How can a sign's shape/color/symbols communicate information?
- How is your sign similar to or different from your friend's?

Thinking & Feedback: Invite children to share their processes. Encourage children to describe the challenges they might have encountered.

Documentation: Collect samples of the children's work as well as photographs and/or video of their process; use the documentation to launch a discussion during Thinking and Feedback.

Provocation: Play a silent sign game with a group of children: explain that you will not speak at all, but will instead 'talk' to them with signs. Before playing the game, create several picture signs that, when viewed in sequence, create a short sentence. Ask children if they can figure out the sentence.

