



Constructing A Playground



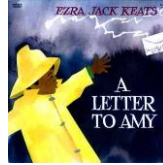
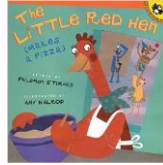
Art Studio



Blocks

Standards:

ATL.IC.PS.1 - 5
 ATL.EP.PS.1 - 5
 ATL.RPS.PS.1 - 8
 CA.VA.PS.1 - 5
 ELA.LS.VAU.PS.1 - 3
 PHD.FM.PS.5 - 6



Materials:

- *The Little Red Hen Makes A Pizza*
- *A Letter To Amy*
- variety of blocks
- paper
- clipboards
- writing utensils
- scissors
- tape
- images of playgrounds resource
- images of school playground
- natural and recycled materials
- construction material
- string, clips, chenille stems

Vocabulary:

- setting: where a story takes place
- playground
- structure
- climb
- slide
- swing
- construct: to build
- neighborhood: the area around a home

Preparation: Set up materials.

Intro to Centers:

“The **setting**--where the story took place--for *A Letter To Amy* and *The Little Red Hen Makes A Pizza* was a **neighborhood**--the area around Peter’s and Amy’s homes. Sometimes **neighborhoods** have **playgrounds**, like the one at our school. What do you notice?”

“Here are images of **playgrounds**. What do you notice?”

“How are these **playgrounds** similar to or different from our school **playground**?”

“Today in Blocks you can use these materials to **construct**--build--a **playground**. What kind of **structures** can you construct for **climbing**, **swinging**, or **sliding**?”

Show illustrations. Children respond.

Show image(s) of school playground. Children respond.

Show images. Children respond.

Show materials. Children respond.

During Centers: Support children in creating signs for their playgrounds. Encourage children to name the shapes of the materials they are using to construct their playgrounds. Encourage children to incorporate features of the school playground or their neighborhood playgrounds into their construction. Discuss playground safety, i.e, going down a slide, standing clear of tire swings, etc.

Guiding Questions during Centers:

- How are the structures in your playground used?
- How is your playground similar to or different from our school playground?
- How is playing outside on a playground similar to or different from playing inside?
- What kind of games/activities can you play on a playground without structures?
How will you make a swing/slide/zip line?
Why is it important to have rules on a playground? What rules should there be?

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

Documentation: Take photographs of children during the activity and display them with captions of the children's words describing their process.

Provocation: Encourage children to think about how the school/neighborhood playground could be enhanced. Children could create plans or proposals to submit to school/ city administrators. Research playground games in other cultures. Invite family members to teach children games from their childhood.

