

Course: Too Many Cheeky Dogs

Lesson Two: Connecting the Story

Learning Area: The Arts

Strands: Drama

Time: 45 Minutes

Year Level: 3-4

Content Descriptor:

- Explore ideas and narrative structures through roles and situations and use empathy in their own improvisations and devised drama (ACADRM031).

Learning Focus:

- Explore making objects and animals with their bodies.
- Begin to develop an understanding of tableaux.
- Share a story with a group.

Time:	Teaching and Learning Strategies:	Preparation and Resources:
10 minutes	Warm-up: energy circle Gather students into a circle. Explain that one student will start by making a small movement and a small accompanying sound. The student next to them must repeat the sound and movement, but make them slightly larger. This is then repeated all around the circle, getting larger and larger, until it comes back to the person who started. At this point, everybody repeats the sound and movement together as loudly and as large as they can. Continue around the circle until everyone has had a turn. Remind students of the narrative and illustrations of <i>Too Many Cheeky Dogs</i> and discuss.	Additional resources required story sticks – an object that you pass around the circle and only the person holding the stick can tell their story. They can be made from anything you have in your home or kitchen, e.g. a wooden spoon with a ribbon tied around it.
10 minutes	Ten second objects The aim of this activity is for students to explore their creativity by creating objects with their bodies in groups. It will help to improve group dynamics and teamwork skills. In groups of six, ask students to make the following objects and animals while you count down from ten to one. By the time you get to one, the object must be complete. - a robot dog - a dog kennel with a dog inside - dog biscuits in a bowl - a dog toy - dogs sneaking into a supermarket.	

10 minutes

Exploring tableaux

Remind students that tableaux are still images. You may like to describe them as Freeze Frames. In their groups of six, ask students make the tableaux below. Ask them to create them and then show them one at a time:

- children playing in the outback
- dogs stealing food at a picnic
- feeding a pack of dogs.

10 minutes

Storytelling with the story stick

Ask students if anyone has a pet that sometimes does funny things. Share a story from your own experience of a pet or animal you know that has done something funny.

In their groups, ask students to think of a funny story that happened to either their pet, a friend's pet or in a movie. They must pass the story stick around until everyone in their group has told a story. Walk around and monitor the activity. When all the groups are finished, ask one or two students to share their story with the rest of the class.

5 minutes

Reflection

Gather students into a circle on the floor. Explain that in drama everyone has to have the courage to share their ideas and join in even if they are feeling really shy. This reflection is a chance for students to say one thing that they saw someone else doing that took courage. It could be just joining in with a game or sharing a story. Make sure that no one mentions the same person twice. This activity will help you to build a safe, positive environment in the drama class.