



Lesson structure plan, Danish partner.

Thematic area:

Music and storytelling (sound theater)

Short description:

Summary:

We have held a row of 12 lessons, preparing for events such as concerts and sound theatre. Final product of sound theatre is uploaded to website handicap.dk and we are collecting material for a CD

Objectives:

Our group consists of blind and visually impaired adults with learning disabilities. We have taken care when preparing the lessons that our group would play an active role. This is the very core of being creative – that you are part of the decision making at every step. We examine the special needs of our group, striving to give everyone a task they are able to handle with success. The lessons are including tactile elements: blind adults “see” with their fingertips. Since we are working in the field of music the adults are taught how to play instruments. We are building self confidence and an objective is to team build in order to create a social forum. We also have the objective to integrate our learners in society, by disseminating our results to the wider public at events such as concerts and sound theatre, and by uploading final product of sound theatre to website handicap.dk and hopefully also producing a CD. Some of the music might be printed in Braille. The content of our lessons is cultural inheritance, since we are working with fairytales written by Danish writer and poet Hans Christian Andersen, and we intend to share this with our European partners. Some of the lessons have as topic our partner countries music and culture. We are sharing the experiences and knowledge we gain from visiting our partners: we have the objective of contributing to the being Active European Citizenship. Our objective is also to be consistent with the convention on The Rights of Persons with disabilities, proclaimed in the Charter of United Nations.

Number of learners:

Eight learners per lesson.

Venue-place:

Locations at Blindecenter Bredegaard: teaching room, dining room, Music and media workshop/Music workshop studio, kitchen.



Duration:

Two hours per lesson.

Equipment:

Book with fairytales written by Danish writer and poet Hans Christian Andersen :” H.C.Andersens Samlede Eventyr og Historier”, Hans Reitzel København, Book with piano scores composed by Danish composer Fini Henriques: “Tommelise”. Piano scores, composed by leader of lesson, Lise Wille Cholewa.

Music instruments: grand piano, piano, drums and percussion for instance recycled instruments bought in France and bells bought in Rumania. Music scores, Cd's, equipment of Music and media workshop/Music workshop studio. Props, for example clogs. Food and drinks (also brought from partner's countries).

Nr of educators:

Two educators with main responsibility and educators assisting.

Detailed description of the teaching course:

Clumsy Hans & Little Tiny or Thumbelina – fairy tale written by Hans Christian Andersen.

As a preparation educator read aloud the fairy tales.

Some of the learners already know the fairy tales in detail, even sentences they know by heart.

Fairy tales by Hans Christian Andersen are being read aloud by leader teaching course, for example: “A graceful little white butterfly constantly fluttered round her, and at last alighted on the leaf. Tiny pleased him, and she was glad of it, for now the toad could not possibly reach her, and the country through which she sailed was beautiful, and the sun shone upon the water, till it glittered like liquid gold. She took off her girdle and tied one end of it round the butterfly, and the other end of the ribbon she fastened to the leaf, which now glided on much faster than ever, taking little Tiny with it as she stood. Presently a large cockchafer flew by; the moment he caught sight of her, he seized her round her delicate waist with his claws, and flew with her into a tree” .Leader is describing the beautiful illustration from the book. This illustration the blind learners can't see, but we can talk about it and talk about the fairy tale: she is carried down the "å" (stream).

http://www.hca.gilead.org.il/li_tiny.html

It is our experience that our learners know a lot about Danish culture. Leader of lesson describes to them that she is reading aloud from a very beautiful book decorated with gold, inherited and from her parents, and that it is one of her memories from childhood: the atmosphere and the sound of her parent's voices when reading aloud the fairytale. Maybe this tradition is at risk of being lost in present time due to lack of time and energy – and due to ignorance too about the importance of real contact between members in families - parents often leave the child alone in his/her room to listen to fairy tales played a Cds, but this should not replace the real contact between people. And the spirituality is inherent in the live performance.

Hans Christian Andersen is very musical in his language and he sometimes even invents new words. Leader of lesson debates with learners that we should approach the fairy tales with respect – even shortening the fairy tales is at risk of ruining them, since they have a certain flow – like a piece of



music. Also translation of the fairy tales to foreign languages is problematic since the poesy of the tales is not in the content but also in the sound of the words.

Working with the fairy tale “Tommelise” – (Thumbelina). Leader suggests that learners take their hands up in the air, imagining they are the butterfly dragging Tiny down the stream, following the music in a gentle way. The session is accompanied by leader at piano – playing from the score “Tommelise”, composer Fini Henriques. Open discussion within the group, selecting fairytales to work with, and debating how to create a sound theater: what instruments to chose? What sounds to create?. When ready with something to record, we record, and the recorded material is given to Lars Kongsø in order that he continues working with it in the studio, creating final result (uploaded at handicap.dk and/Cd as final product. Later in the process leader of lesson has brought her own compositions for the fairy tale to class. Learners listen to the piano pieces and are selecting among the pieces what pieces should be used for the sound theater. We experiment with instruments, accompanying the piano pieces, and we experiment with singing along and also fitting the piano pieces together with words and sentences from the fairy tale. When we are ready we record in many variations, and the recorded material is given to Lars Kongsø in order that he continues working with it in the studio. The process of creating the final result is a very long and time absorbing process. But learners participating in lessons, say they enjoy it very much, and say they are very good at it. We also film the lessons in order to disseminate our results.

Research phase:

Leader of lessons has been doing research, finding for instance a piano score: “Tommelise”, composed by Fini Henriques

Library:

“Tommelise”, composed by Fini Henriques.

Assessment and Evaluation:

We debated the working process and commented on the results we obtained in an informal way.

Certification:

Not relevant. The joy of the process and the result is relevant.

Supporting videos:

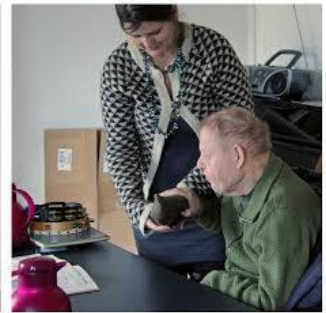
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ISnEg-DQf2Y>

<http://www.densocialevirksomhed.dk/blindecenterbredegaard/menu/Om+os/Film.htm>

<http://www.densocialevirksomhed.dk/blindecenterbredegaard/menu/Boliger+og+Dagtilbud/Dagtilbud/Radio.htm>



Picture gallery:





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Useful website:

Websites can be used to research legislative and regulatory matters to be considered, including licensing and applications for licenses (consents): <http://www.koda.dk/eng/home/>

