

Multilingual Storytelling

MATERIALS NEEDED

Text/video, objects, pictures, word cards, paper, pencils, glue

AIM OF THE ACTIVITY

The aim of the activity is to invent little stories based on the sounds, words, or phrases the pupils can pick up from a text in the new language. This should raise their awareness for similarities and differences between the new language(s) and those they already know and strengthen their imagination.

PREPARATION FOR THE ACTIVITY

Each child listens to a different video and writes down the words they think they understand in the new language(s) or in their strongest language.

SIGNIFICANT BENEFIT OF THE ACTIVITY

Identifying words or phrases in different languages builds a lexicon. When pupils use this lexicon for stories and storytelling, they will develop their narrative competence.

PROCEDURE

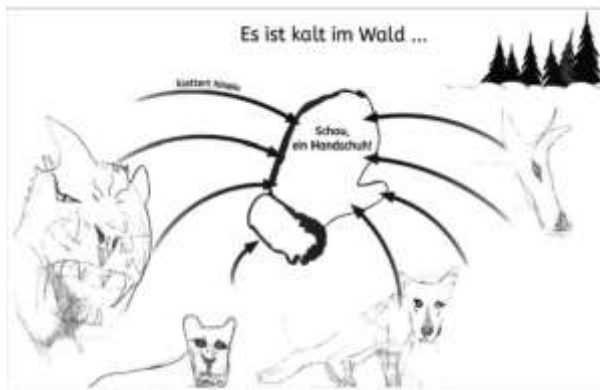
The children listen to videos or read texts and note down or highlight sounds, words, or phrases they understand. In groups, they share their sounds, words, or phrases and describe the context that helped them understand them.

Together, they start telling little stories using the sounds, words, or phrases. They also draw their stories and prepare to present them together. The stories can be multilingual and the presentations can include drama activities.

EXAMPLE

Based on the story "The Mitten" by Jan Brette





Source: Mewald, C. (2019) Across languages and cultures: Modelling teaching and learning with intercomprehension. In: Achilleas Kostoulas (ed.) Challenging Boundaries in Language Education. Second Language Learning and Teaching Series. New York: Springer, p. 141-164