



BE_Class_TheBags_CreatingLA

Teacher Education Design Principle + code:	8. Teacher education should enable teachers to design and assess creativity-enabling inquiry-based activities which are child-friendly and include both guided and open inquiries. TE: CreatingLA
Specific Teacher Outcome(s):	8.1 Teachers should be able to design and assess open-ended learning activities.
Factors linked with:	T: Ped; P: Agency; M: Explor; M: Cr; M: Variet
Type of material (image – interview (int) – classroom extract (class):	Classroom
Originating from:	
Country report :	D4.3 – Belgian report
Case:	Case 3
Episode:	The Bags
Teacher:	Katrien
Age Group:	2,5-3
Selected episode present in D4.4 Appendix	No



Providing a variety of selected materials and instruments to initiate open inquiry in a small group of young children.

In this episode we will focus on the two children who were working for about 50 minutes with stones, filling instruments (such as funnels, spoons) and other containers.

The main focus of this activity is learning by exploring and experimenting. The teacher provides the materials and looks what children do with these materials. Everything is possible, it very open-ended inquiry. She does not know what the children want to explore.

Child 2 is grabbing a bottle and starts filling the bottle with stones by using a spoon.

Child 1 is filling her bag with one scoop.

Child 2 is grabbing a smaller scoop to fill the bottle.

Child 2 is grabbing a small glass to fill her bottle.

In the example above you see that the child noticed that there were falling a lot of stones next to the bottle when using a spoon. Then she noticed that she could put a lot of stones into a scoop and then she tried the glass, which has the same opening as the scoop but can contain more stones.

During the activity the teacher was very focused on allowing the children to play on their own. She only interfered when she observed she could foster the children to take a step further in their play. In the example below the teacher makes a connection between the individual play of two children.

Child 2 is using her small glass to put stones into the funnel.

Teacher: C1, do you also want to do this?

Child 1 is nodding.

In addition, they are exploring the characteristics of stones and the working principles of instruments such as funnels. They experience that the stone can only pass when there is some air between the funnel and the object to fill.

Child 2 is pushing with her glass on the stones and then pulls up her filling material.

Child 2: Look, they are gone!

Child 1 is adding stones to her bag, but places the filling material again outside the bag.

Child 2 is repeating the action but she doesn't lift the funnel as high as before and she does it after every time she brings in stones with her glass.



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