



MA_Class_Minibeasts_CreatInqLA

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: CreatInqLA
Specific Teacher Outcome(s):	8.1 Teachers should be able to design and assess open-ended learning activities.
Factors linked with:	M: Expl
Type of material (image – interview (int) – classroom extract (class):	Classroom extract (class)
Originating from:	
Country report :	D4.3 – report Malta
Case:	Case 2
Episode:	2.2 Minibeasts
Teacher:	Lydia
Age Group:	6-7
Selected episode present in D4.4 Appendix	Yes



Design open-ended inquiry activities by encouraging children to explore their surrounding and discuss scientific knowledge about minibeasts



Reflecting and hypothesizing about the pupa stuck to the tree

Lydia: "O.K. You are now in the yard and I am going to ask you to work in your groups and to try and find minibeasts.... You have to record what you find in your sheets..."

*The children look at their worksheets and prepare the pencil in their hands.
They wander around.*

Child 1: "See what this is..."

Child 2: "That is a pupa...is was a caterpillar once"

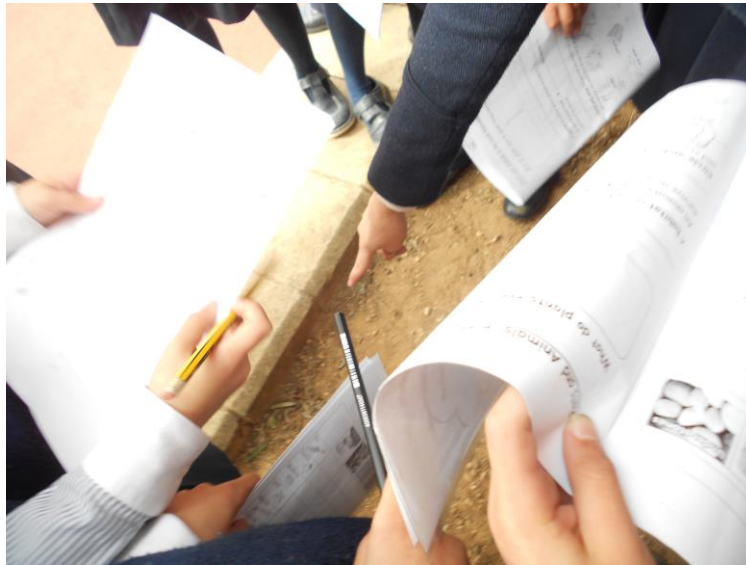
Child 3: "Yes, we had one in our garden...it turns into a butterfly..."

Child 1: "Look, how it is stuck to the tree...will it fall?"

Child 2: "How long do they take to become a butterfly?"

Researcher: "They can become moths too...you know..."

The children look at the pupa for some more time, make a note in their worksheet under caterpillar and move on to look for other minibeasts.



Children asking each other questions and sharing own experiences to make sense of evidence or minibeasts found

Another group saw some ants walking on the soil.

Child 1: “Look, we have lots of those, ants at home too...”

Child 2: “How many are there?”

Children are counting the ants that they see...1...2...3 etc.

Child 1: “We also have them in garden, the ants...”

Child 2: “We also have them inside, my mum does not like them in the kitchen...”

Child 1: “Look how they run about, they go fast...do they have food?”

Children are busy recording the number of ants in the worksheet. They ask the researcher to help them on how to fill it in as they were not sure where they had to put in the number of ants that they had observed.

Concluding Activity:

The teacher then calls the students back, and takes them back up to the classroom. When the children have settled down, the teacher asked them to share the different types of minibeasts that they had observed in the yard. The children list the minibeasts observed. The teacher promises to take the children again another time, as it was time for school break. The activity ends.



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