

EYFS Lesson Plan

Scales and slime

Objectives

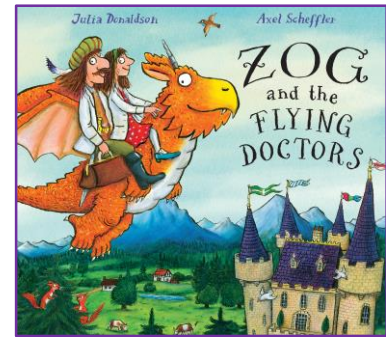
- To listen to a story, responding to what they hear
- To experiment with different materials to make objects
- To improve fine motor-skills, using scissors

Resources

- *Zog and the Flying Doctors* by Julia Donaldson and Axel Scheffler
- *Resource Sheet 1: Princess Pearl needs...*
- *Resource Sheet 2: Snail trails*
- Scissors
- Writing implements e.g. pencils, pens, crayons
- Paint and brushes
- A range of materials for modelling e.g. paper, card, bubble wrap, aluminium foil, boxes and other 'junk'
- Sticky tape and/or glue

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Outcomes

- Children will follow lines with increasing accuracy using writing implements or scissors
- Children will experiment with different colours, equipment and materials to create mermaid scales, unicorn horns, lion sneezes and slime.

Introduction

Show the children the front cover of *Zog and the Flying Doctors*. Ask the children whether they have seen any of these characters before – they might have met them in the previous book *Zog*. If they already know about the characters, can they guess what might happen in this story?

Read the story to the children. They might like to join in with a loud ‘bang-crash-thump’ each time Zog lands, or make their own actions to go with this recurring part of the story. After reading the story, ask the children if they can remember what ingredients Princess Pearl had to use in her medicine for the King. If not, look back at each of the pages that show Gadabout and Zog collecting the items for Princess Pearl. Use each one as an opportunity to check the children’s understanding of what a mermaid’s scale, a unicorn’s horn and slime is. What do they think each of the objects would look like? What might they feel like?

Main task

Show children *Resource Sheet 1: Princess Pearl needs...* which lists the unusual things needed for the King’s medicine (can they notice which one ingredient is missing – cheese?). Explain that the children are going to make the things listed on the resource sheet, which Princess Pearl needs. Set-up the making area with a range of modelling materials and equipment such as scissors, glue, sticky tape, etc. Copies of the resource sheet should also be available for children to look at while they are experimenting with how to make each item. They can also draw pictures of the ingredients on Resource Sheet 1, to help them remember what they are.

Ask: What colour will the mermaid’s scale be? In the book it is blue, but the children might have other suggestions. Reinforce that we don’t know what colour a mermaid’s tail is, so they might like to choose their own ideas.

Ask: What might be a good material for making the mermaid’s tail out of? Show the children some of the items that are available, for instance, paper, card, bubble wrap, or aluminium foil.

Give children free play opportunities with the making equipment to create their own versions of Princess Pearl’s wanted items. Discuss with them why they chose particular materials and why they have made them in a particular way. The final designs could be added to a *Zog and the Flying Doctors* display.

Extension

Share *Resource Sheet 2: Snail trails* with the children. Princess Pearl needed some slime for her medicine. Gadabout collected it from the mermaid's sea-snail friends. You might like to look back in the book and show them the picture of Gadabout collecting the slime. The children's task is to follow the snail trails carefully with a pencil, or a pair of scissors, just like Gadabout had to follow the sea-snail's trail in the story. Have safety scissors available for the children's use, as well as a selection of writing implements for the children to choose from to complete their task.

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Curriculum links

Early Years Communication and language

- Children listen to stories, accurately anticipating key events and respond to what they hear with relevant comments, questions or actions.

Early Years Personal, social and emotional development

- Children work as part of a group or class, and understand and follow the rules.

Early Years Understanding the world

- They make observations of animals.

Early Years Physical development

- Children show good control and coordination in large and small movements.
- They handle equipment and tools effectively, including pencils for writing.

Expressive Arts and design

- They safely use and explore a variety of materials, tools and techniques, experimenting with colour, design, texture, form and function.
- Children use what they have learnt about media and materials in original ways, thinking about uses and purposes.

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Resource Sheet 1: Princess Pearl needs...

Can you help Princess Pearl by making the things she needs for the King's medicine? Draw pictures of the different ingredients.

Mermaid
scales

Unicorn's
horn

Mighty lion's
sneeze

Slime

Scales and slime

Resource Sheet 2: Snail trails

Follow the sea-snail trails for Gadabout

