February Lesson 1 Fairy Tales

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Morning Circle

Introduce today's topic by asking children what their favorite fairy tales are. If they need help, throw out a few suggestions or them. Tell them the title of your own favorite fairy tale. Ask them to name some things that are often seen in fairy tales (castles, princesses, handsome princes, horses, etc. and sometimes queens.) Ask the children if they can guess the letter of the day after you say, "Once upon a time, a quiet queen quickly quilted a quail-covered quilt." Show the children the letter "Q," and then pull out some "Q" items from a "Queen's Quilted purse," (if you have access to anything that could pass for a quilted handbag.) Items could include a Question mark, a Quarter, a photo of a Quarterback, a Quail, a Quoll, a Quill, a Quince, and a Quacking duck.

Ask the children if they've heard the story of Rapunzel. Explain the original storyline briefly to them. For a quick refresher on the Grimm's story, here's an easy link: http://fairytales4u.com/story/rapunzel.htm .



Then read, Falling for Rapunzel, by Leah Wilcox. This hilarious twist on the old tale will surely get lots of giggles!

Music & Movement:

Game: "Rapunzel, Rapunzel...Let Down Your Hair!" Base this game on "Red Light/Green Light" or "What's the Time, Mr. Wolf?" One child will be chosen to be Rapunzel, and will stand apart from her classmates. The classmates will line up beside each other across the room from "Rapunzel." The children will call out "Rapunzel, Rapunzel, let down vour hair!" At which point, "Rapunzel" will face away from the children and say "Rescue Me!" and the children will slowly "climb" up toward her. "Rapunzel" will quickly turn and face all her charmings and yell "Wait!" The participants then must freeze in their tracks. When she is ready, "Rapunzel" will then turn away and say, "Rescue Me!" again. Repeat until someone reaches poor Rapunzel.

Snack Time: Explain that the word "rapunzel" actually refers to a type of salad green, and was sometimes called "rampion" the old-fashioned Grimms brothers' fairy tale. Have some "rapunzel" salad for snack today!



Center Activities

- 1. Cables and pulleys. Use some basic pulley systems, (you can find these at any hardware store,) and let the children experiment with hauling items up and down with a pulley attached to a bucket or pail.
- 2. Have a wig center. Provide a variety of wigs, from Halloween clown hairdos to the barette-type hair extensions you often see in dollar stores. Provide brushes, bobbie pins, barettes, etc. even some lengths of ribbon and show the children how to braid.
- 3. Measuring center. Most of the versions of "Rapunzel" mention that her hair was "about 20 yards long." Have a length of rope or twine cut to approximately this length to show the children how long Rapunzel's hair must have been. Cut the rope or twine into various other lengths, and provide yardsticks, pads of paper, and pencils and let the children do some measuring and recording

Art Activity

Patchwork Class Quilt



Give each child their own "quilt block" of construction paper. Provide scraps of fabric, tissue paper, buttons. crayons, bits of netting or lace, and other items to help them make their blocks unique. After each block is complete, help the children paste their blocks beside one another on a big sheet of butcher paper, a large piece of cardboard, or other type of backing material.

more ideas online

Bible Story

The Quiltmaker's Gift, by Jeff Brambeau. Emphasize that wealth is not what makes us truly happy, but that real joy comes with giving and loving those around us.

Bible Verse Bracelets:

Luke 18:22b "Sell everything you have and give it to tne poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come and follow Me." Explain that Jesus is making the point tha earthly treasures are not what's really important.

Song: "Luke, Chapter 9, Verse 23" (or, "Follow Follow Follow Follow Follow Follow Me!") by Colin Buchanan from his "Practise Being Godly" enhanced CD.