

DOLLS WORKSHOP



INTRODUCTION

The dolls corner is a space present in all nursery classes and kindergartens. Children freely exercise their need to reproduce what they have experienced at home and they let their imaginations run wild. Role play is also decisive in the overall development of the child.

Pretending, the child interacts with its environment, it thus builds its cognitive structures while it's not mastering completely the language. It takes a step back from what it is experiencing.

Role play also helps to develop fine motor skills. When feeding or dressing the baby, it adjusts its gestures to achieve its goal and develops fine motor skills.

Finally, imitation plays a major role in socialization. Playing other roles permits to become aware of the existence of the other but also of oneself and to play in interaction.

This workshop is a complement of the free activities of the child with a series of activities that allow him to structure his thought and his language: knowing how to name the different pieces of clothing, reproducing a model, choose a dress code according to the sex of the doll, the time of day, the weather ...

It includes also observation activities: colour recognition, distinguish the different fabrics, recognise similarities, the differences ...

The different pieces of clothing, thanks to the variety of their shapes, will promote the development of fine motor skills and the acquisition of body diagram.

Finally, the various activities contribute to the exchanges among children and strengthen their spirit of teamwork.

But let's keep in mind that the free play doll in the child's arms must have the final word!



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COMPOSITION OF THE MATERIAL

The material is composed by:

- 1 teacher manual of 20 pages including workshop, sensory, observation, image reading, language and discovery activities for children from 2 to 6 years old.
- 1 individual activity manual for children of 12 model sheets intended to reproduce identically or broken down in stages, holding dolls to exercise their sense of observation, fine motor skills and image reading.

If you do not have dolls or clothes, here you find the product references that allow you to implement the activities.

However, all of the activity sheets have been designed to be used also with personal materials, 40 cm dolls and clothes that are in the classroom or that the children can lend.

Dolls (40 cm). References n°:

European girl 40061
European boy 40060

African girl 40058
African boy 40059

Clothes. References n°:

Set 4 girl clothes «Fancy» 40376
Set 4 European girl clothes 40375
Set 3 girl clothes « C » 40385
Set 3 girl clothes for outside 40436

3 girl sleeping outfits 40436
3 boy clothes « A » 40363
3 boy clothes « C » 40386
3 boy sleeping outfits 40384

Children's activity sheets

To complete the group activity file, 12 individual model sheets to reproduce with two levels:

- Reproduction of the whole outfit reading the image globally.
- Reproduction of the outfit divided by pieces of clothing.

For each sheet:



- Logo indicating: if it is a girl or a boy.
- Logo indicating: whether it is a day, night or outdoor outfit.
- Picture of each item of clothing which creates the outfit (1 sheet out of 2).
- The number of the sheet.

DISCOVERY OF THE MATERIAL



- **AGE 2 years**

- **EDUCATIONAL GOALS**

Play freely, imagine, exchange

- **WHAT YOU NEED**

Surprise children by showing them two new dolls, girl and boy, with their specific clothes, in the corner of the kindergarten dedicated to dolls.

- **HOW TO PLAY**

Let the children discover the dolls, talk about them and play freely with them.

New activities will be introduced once the enthusiasm and interest of the children wane.

- **EXTENSION**

The other two dolls will be showed in a different day in order to increase the interest and the desire to speak out.

NAME THE DOLLS



- **AGE** 2 years

- **EDUCATIONAL GOALS**

Personalize and identify the dolls, because they can, if desired, be used as a mediator in the class.

Become aware of your own existence and the existence of the other.

Promote exchanges and language.

- **WHAT YOU NEED**

Choose two dolls, a girl and a boy, European or African.

- **HOW TO PLAY**

In small groups. There are different ways to proceed. Here we describe 3:

- Set up two dolls, a girl and a boy at the time of the morning call. Ask the children what their names are.
- During the time of regrouping, bring two dolls and engage in discussions to find them a first name.
- If children are too small, teacher will name the dolls and will introduce them to the class.

Let the children share. Get the older ones to vote and find an agreement for the younger ones. For all children, this will be the common reference that will allow them to introduce other activities.

Most importantly, let children call any dolls with the first name they want when playing freely alone or in groups. This is the main educational aspect of playing with dolls: make it yours and transfer your own experience into it.

NAME THE CLOTHES



- **AGE** 2 years

- **EDUCATIONAL GOALS**

Learning a specific vocabulary
Promoting verbal exchanges with others

- **WHAT YOU NEED**

Take two dolls and make them dressed making sure to mix the different types of clothes: skirt, pants, sweater, waistcoat, blouse, hooded coat, hat....

- **HOW TO PLAY**

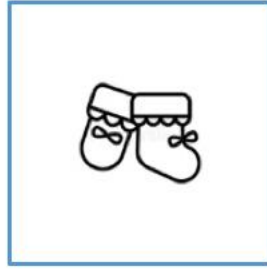
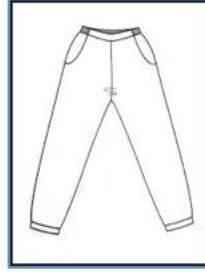
In a small group or with all the children, introduce the dolls, one at a time, and ask the children how they are dressed.

Take off the recognized clothes as you go. Give the names of those that the children do not know.

- **EXTENSION**

In a small group or with all the children, show the dolls undressed and ask the children to dress them according to the labels that will be distributed. To do this, photocopy the "clothing" labels that will be found below: sheet N ° 4 and photocopy activity sheet N ° 5.

CLOTHING LABELS



ITEMS OF CLOTHING

Circle in red the hat.



Circle in blue the gloves.



Circle in green the socks.



COLOURS AND FABRIC PATTERNS



- **AGE** 3/4 years

- **EDUCATIONAL GOALS**

Develop the sense of observation: learn the main colours, approach the more difficult notion of fabric patterns: plain, spotted, checked, striped, with flowers.

Learn how to read instructions in pictures.

Develop fine motor skills.

Promote expression.

- **PREPARATION OF THE MATERIAL**

Choose 4 clothing outfits predominantly plain, spotted, striped, flowers or checked.

Prepare 4 dolls without clothes.

Cut out the labels in the following sheet N ° 7.

- **HOW TO PLAY**

For a workshop of 4 children.

Give each child a doll and a certain number of clothes.

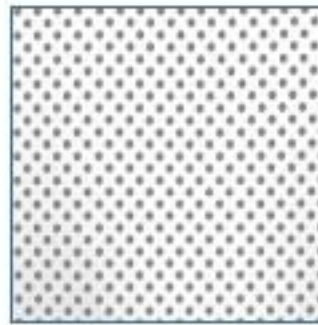
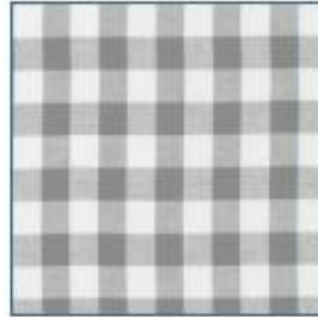
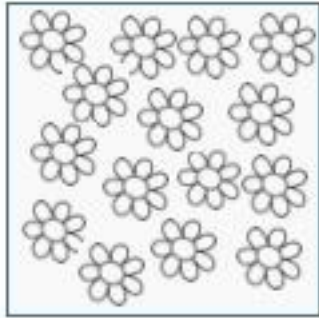
Comment with the children what they see on the labels: flowers, dots, stripes ...

Distribute a label for each doll. Ask the children to dress their dolls according to the instruction label and make comparisons. « She's wearing a skirt with flowers », « he's wearing a checked shirt ».

- **EXTENSION**

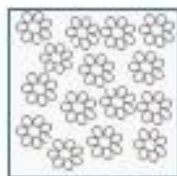
It is possible to photocopy and distribute Sheet N°8 according to their age, in order to consolidate their knowledges.

LABELS ABOUT FABRIC PATTERNS



FABRIC PATTERNS

Match each item of clothing to the correct pattern.



DIFFERENCES



- **AGE** 3 years

- **EDUCATIONAL GOALS**

Approach the notion of sex by comparison.

- **PREPARATION OF THE MATERIAL**

Prepare two dolls, girl and boy, and dress them in a very differentiated way: intentionally a dress for the girls and trousers for the boys even if we know that the girls dress with pants. Prepare two other dolls, girl and boy, and dress them almost identically, at least both with trousers.

- **HOW TO PLAY**

In a small group, show the first two dolls. Ask the children if they are girls or boys. Ask them how they have guessed it. Some of them will say that the girl is wearing a dress and the boy trousers. Others may disagree and give other explanations.

Then show the children the other two dolls with trousers and ask the same question. The sex of the dolls will be immediately clear.

MEAL TIME

- **AGE 2 years**
- **EDUCATIONAL GOALS**
Take advantage of the doll's presence to discuss the times of the day and the frequency of meals or even their composition.
- **PREPARATION OF THE MATERIAL**
Place one or more dolls in the gathering area or on a carpet, with bottles, plates, glasses, cutlery.
- **HOW TO PLAY**
In a small group, let the children choose a doll, a bottle or a plate. Ask them what they want to feed the dolls with.
Collect the answers and comment them with children. Clarify their thoughts about when they want to feed the baby and what they want to give.
Then let them play freely.
- **EXTENSION**
Do not hesitate to take pictures of the different times of the day to use them and address the notions of the flow of time in future activities.

BATH TIME

- **AGE 3/6 years**

- **EDUCATIONAL GOALS**

Take advantage of the doll's presence to introduce the concept of hygiene. Promote expression and verbal exchanges, learn a specific vocabulary. Develop fine motor skills.

- **PREPARATION OF THE MATERIAL**

Prepare a small bath with water, soap, a sponge or glove and a towel.

- **HOW TO PLAY**

In small groups, create surprise and interest by placing a small bath and toilet accessories in front of the children. Ask them to go and get one or more dressed dolls. Spontaneously, the children will undress the doll. Support them to break down the actions: soaping, washing, rinsing, wiping, dressing. Make them describe the actions and discuss about the need to get washed regularly.

- **EXTENSION**

This common activity will help to anchor behaviours. Then let the children freely deal with the dolls in the play area. They can imitate what they saw during the activity or continue to reproduce what they experience at home.

SLEEPING TIME

- **AGE** 3/6 years

- **EDUCATIONAL GOALS**

Take advantage of the doll's presence to introduce the concept of moments of the day. Promote expression and verbal exchanges, learn a specific vocabulary. Develop fine motor skills.

- **WHAT YOU NEED**

Place the naked dolls on a carpet with their bed. Use LAP item n° 40394, 40388 or 40392. Prepare several clothes.

- **HOW TO PLAY**

In small groups, tell the children that the dolls need to be put to bed. Let the children choose: the nightwear dressing and the bedtime ritual that they experience at home. Collect comments and encourage discussion among children.

- **EXTENSION**

Do not hesitate to take pictures of the different times of the day to use them and address the notions of the flow of time in future activities.

GETTING DRESSED



- **AGE** 3 years

- **EDUCATIONAL GOALS**

Develop observation.

Develop fine motor skills.

Match the dress code to the time of day.

Respond to instructions, decode images.

Verbal exchange and development of a specific vocabulary.

- **PREPARATION OF THE MATERIAL**

Prepare the naked dolls, a basket full of clothes as well as the "Moments of the day" labels which can be in Sheet N ° 14.

- **HOW TO PLAY**

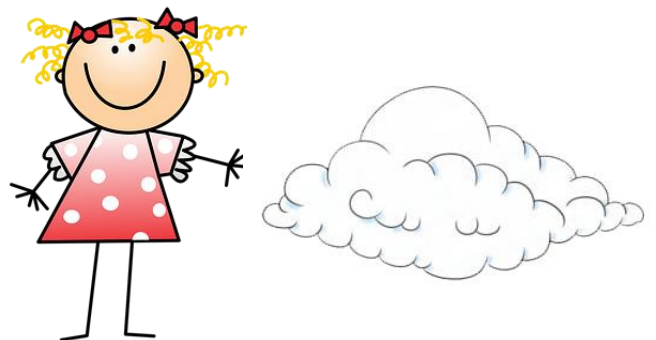
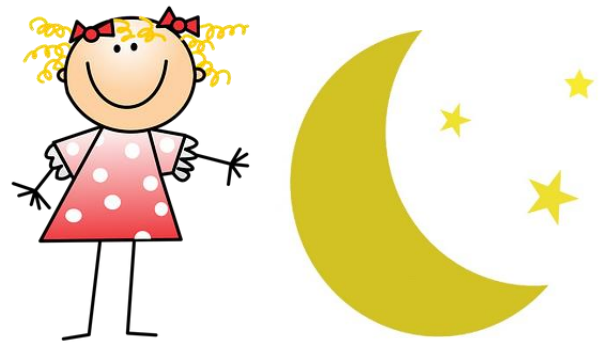
In groups of 4 children if you have 4 dolls of different sex, explain them that they are going to dress the dolls but according to the instructions that will be given to them. Ask the children to decode the instructions: boy, girl, night, day ... Help them if necessary.

Ask them to dress them according to the "Times of the day" label that you will have previously distributed to each one or that they will have chosen. Let the children choose the doll of the requested sex.

Support children in the choice of clothes, dressing which requires good skill.

As a group, compare the results of the dressings. Collect feedback.

MOMENTS OF THE DAY LABELS



WEATHER



- **AGE** 3 years

- **EDUCATIONAL GOALS**

Introduce the notion of the weather while dressing the dolls.

Decode an instruction through a picture.

Promote verbal expression and exchanges.

Develop fine motor skills.

- **PREPARATION OF THE MATERIAL**

Cut out the labels you find in sheet N ° 16

Take 4 naked dolls.

Take all the dolls outfits you have.

- **HOW TO PLAY**

For a group of 4 children

Give each child a naked doll and a basket filled with available clothes.

Give everyone a weather label, which we will have previously discussed and explained with the children.

Ask them to dress their doll with the clothes corresponding to the time indicated on their label.

Once the outfit is completed, ask each child to justify their choice and let the discussions be expressed.

LABELS ABOUT WEATHER

