



Lesson Plan 3 – Social and Emotional Learning through the Arts

Overview

LEARNING OBJECTIVE

- To explore and identify the social and emotional themes presented in May Gibbs' stories and provide a platform for discussions and activities.

LEARNING OUTCOME

- Help children understand different social structures, emotions and emotional experiences and be able to apply them to their own life experiences.

SUGGESTED AGE GUIDELINES

- 5-10 years.

BOOK REFERENCE

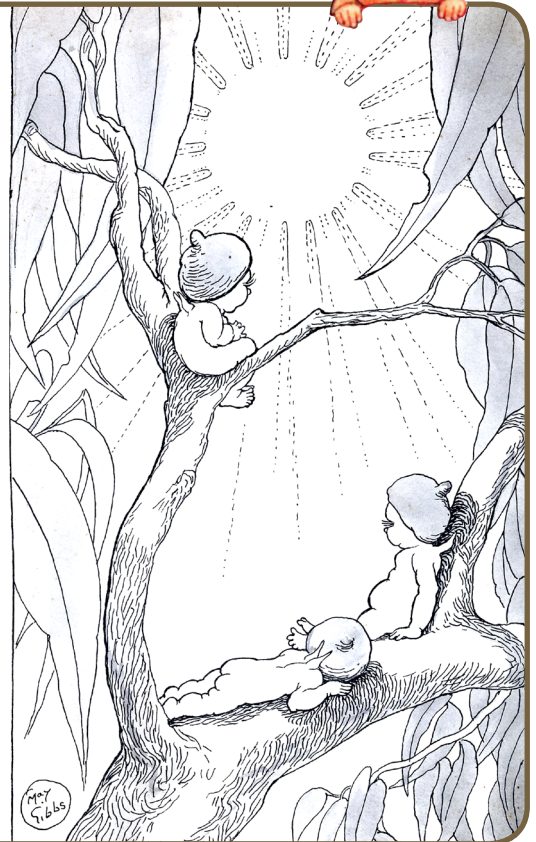
- The Complete Adventures of Snugglepoot and Cuddleprie.

CROSS-CURRICULAR LINKS

- Health and Physical Education, Drama, Critical and Creative Thinking, Personal and Social Capability, Ethical Understanding, Intercultural Understanding.

RESOURCES

- Craft materials, musical instruments.



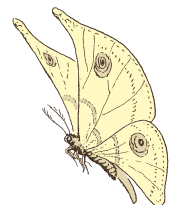
INTRODUCTION

Snugglepoot and Cuddleprie examines some common childhood emotions and emotional experiences. The story also explores the importance of kindness and helping each other, the personal traits of curiosity, courage, being a quick thinker, adventurousness, and timidity, the relationship and balance between good and evil, and the responsibility we have to look after our environment. It also examines diverse family relationships and structures, the impact of bullies, the different cultures and customs of life in the bush and life in the city, and the power of the imagination.



MAIN TEACHING ACTIVITY

- Discuss the role of emotions in the story of Snugglepoot and Cuddleprie:
 - How do Snugglepoot and Cuddleprie's feelings change throughout the story?
 - Mind map or draw a pictorial representation of the emotions of the characters (fear, excitement, sadness, love etc).
- Some suggestions for themes to examine and discuss with the children:
 - Cuddleprie is a gentle gumnut baby who tried to be kind to others. Are you a kind person? What does it mean to be kind? How do you show your kindness? Has anyone been kind to you? What is good about being kind? Is there anything hard about being kind? How do different people show kindness?

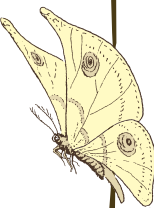




Lesson Plan 3 – Social and Emotional Learning through the Arts

MAIN TEACHING ACTIVITY (continued)

- Mr Frog helps the gumnut babies to find Mr Lizard. Ragged Blossom helps the gumnut babies and Mr Lizard when the Banksia Man is after them. Have you ever helped anyone? What did you do to be helpful? Has anyone ever helped you? How did they help? How does it feel to help others? How does it feel when people help you?
- Snugglepot is a very curious gumnut baby. He is very curious to see humans. Are you a curious person? What are you curious about? What do you do when you feel curious? How can being curious help you and others? How can it hurt you and others?
- Cuddlepie is a bit of a scaredy nut. He has to find a lot of courage when he is on his journey with his adventurous brother Snugglepot. Have you ever had to find some courage? Have you done something courageous? What is it like having to find some courage even if you are very scared about something? Some people win awards for courage and bravery. Some people are courageous every day in small ways. Think and talk about someone courageous you know.
- Cuddlepie is able to think very quickly on the spot to get his friends out of danger. Do you know someone who is a quick thinker? Have you ever used quick thinking to solve a problem?
- Snugglepot is very adventurous. He is always excited to go off to discover new and different things. Are you adventurous? What adventurous things have you done? What type of adventures do you enjoy? Is it always a good thing to be adventurous? What are some of the good things about being adventurous? What are some of the not so good things about being adventurous? Can you learn to be adventurous? Is there such a thing as being too adventurous?
- Cuddlepie and Ragged Blossom are both timid. What does being timid mean? Are you sometimes timid? Do you know any timid people? What is it like to be timid? What situations make you feel timid? Can it be a good thing or helpful to be timid sometimes? How do you help yourself when you feel timid? How can others help you?
- Snugglepot and Cuddlepie discover both good and evil in the world on their journey. They learn that some humans set traps for possums, while others set them free. They meet kind Mr Frog and evil Mrs Snake. What do you know about good and evil? Do we need both in the world? Is anyone ever really truly evil? Or truly good? Can people and animals change between good and evil?
- Professor Kookaburra speaks to the bushfolk of the ways in which humans are damaging the world, from the perspective of the flora and fauna in the Australian bush. This message is still very pertinent today. Are we responsible for looking after our world? What do you know about looking after the environment? What are some actions you can take to care for our world? What are some things you do that damage the environment? Look after the environment?
- Mrs Snake is a bully and the Big Bad Banksia Man is part of her gang. Have you ever been bullied? Has anyone ever tried to make you be a bully? Why do people join in with bullies in hurting and teasing others? What can you do if someone tries to make you be part of their gang? What can you do if a bully tries to hurt you or a friend?
- Snugglepot and Cuddlepie travel from their bushland home to the big city. It is very different to what they are used to. What are the different customs and cultures of bush people and city people that you know? Why have these customs developed? Are they really different or is this just a stereotype?
- Snugglepot and Cuddlepie are a product of May Gibbs' wonderful imagination. How do you use your imagination? How can using your imagination help you to solve problems? Create wonderful things? Is it always a useful thing to have a great imagination? How can it help you and others? How can it cause difficulties?





Lesson Plan 3 – Social and Emotional Learning through the Arts

GROUP OR INDEPENDENT ACTIVITY

- Form groups and choose an extract from the text that shows one of these emotions.
- Mime the emotions, play them on an instrument, or move like Snugglepot and Cuddlepie when they experience these feelings.

PLENARY

- Groups present their emotion to the rest of the class using mime, instruments or movement and the class guess which emotion the group is demonstrating.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

- Interview Snugglepot and Cuddlepie at different stages of their journey – ask how they are feeling, what they have seen, who have they met? Avoid yes/no questions. (5-10 years)
- Take digital photos of children representing characters experiencing different emotions throughout the story. Use these photos to create a mind map of emotions of the characters.
- There are many diverse family structures and characters in the story. Cuddlepie has been fostered by Snugglepot's family. Ragged Blossom is an orphan who is adopted by Lilly Pilly and her family. Mr Lizard adopts the two young lizards accidentally hatched out by Mrs Fantail. Who is in your family? Is there anything different about your family that you would like to share or celebrate? (5-10 years)

Australian Curriculum – content codes

Health & Physical Education	Foundation	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
Personal, Social and Community Health/Communicating and interacting for health and wellbeing	ACPPS005	ACPPS020	ACPPS020	ACPPS038, ACPPS041	ACPPS038, ACPPS041	
Movement and Physical Activity/Understanding movement	ACPMP010			ACPMP046	ACPMP046	
Movement and Physical Activity/Moving Our Body	ACPMP008	ACPMP026	ACPMP026v			

NSW Syllabus – Creative Arts Outcomes (pending introduction of new Syllabus)

Subject	Objective	Early Stage 1	Stage 1	Stage 2	Stage 3
Growth and personal development		GDES1.9	GDS1.9	GDS2.9	
Interpersonal relationships		IRES1.11	IRS1.11	IRS2.11	IRS3.11
Dance		DAES1.7			
Moving		MOES1.4	MOS1.4	MOS2.4	
Active Lifestyle		ALES1.6	ALS1.6	ALS2.6	

These discussions and activities also support progress towards the Australian Curriculum General Capabilities Achievement Standards for Foundation, Year 2 and Year 4:

- Critical and Creative Thinking
- Personal and Social Capability
- Ethical Understanding
- Intercultural Understanding



Lesson Plan 3 – Social and Emotional Learning through the Arts

FURTHER RESOURCES:

The Australian Curriculum Online
www.australiancurriculum.edu.au

Board of Studies NSW
<http://syllabus.bos.nsw.edu.au>

The State Library of NSW features the work of May Gibbs in their Discover Collection series.
http://www.sl.nsw.gov.au/discover_collections/society_art/gibbs.html

The Royal Botanic Gardens & Domain Trust
www.rbgsyd.nsw.gov.au

The official website of Nutcote, May Gibbs' Neutral Bay home.
<http://www.nutcote.org>

A detailed online biography of May Gibbs and her father Herbert Gibbs
<http://adb.anu.edu.au/biography/gibbs-cecilia-may-6373>

The Australian Children's Literature website provides a comprehensive list of Australian children's publications from 1830 to 1950
<http://www.australianchildrensliterature.com/1830-1950.htm>

The ABC Splash site has a 5 minute video explaining how May Gibbs took inspiration from the Australian bush to write her classic Australian bushland fantasies.
<http://splash.abc.net.au/media?id=104738>

EXCURSIONS:

Contact the following organisations for details of excursions related to Snugglepoot and Cuddlepiefie in the Greater Sydney area:

- CDP Theatre Producers for details of when and where the Snugglepoot and Cuddlepiefie stage show is touring to your area –
<http://www.cdp.com.au/snugglepoot.html>
- Nutcote - <http://www.nutcote.org>
- Royal Botanic Gardens and Domain Trust, NSW – <https://www.rbgsyd.nsw.gov.au/Learn>
- Botanic Gardens in your local area

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