

Philosophy for Children teaching class summary for 11/7 Theo, Madeline, Lila
Class time: 45 minutes

Goal and objectives:

- Encourage children to be creative and embrace mistakes
- Discuss what art is, what it means to them
- Encourage them to think out of the box and be comfortable in the uncomfortable of drawing with inkblots/stains/splotches
- Refer back to the “rules” we set last week if behavior gets out of hand

Materials

- Papers with inkblot/ splatter on them
- Markers
- Beautiful Oops book
- Printed-out pictures of paintings/ art

1. Introductions (10 minutes)/ Questions

- a. Greet them, and ask “What is art to you?”
 - b. What are different kinds of art (performing arts/visual arts)?
 - c. Is art beautiful?
 - i. Is some art more or less beautiful?
 - ii. Are some pieces of art more or less ‘art’?
 - d. Show printed out pictures:
 - i. Famous painting: Mona Lisa
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mona_Lisa#/media/File:Mona_Lisa_by_Leonardo_da_Vinci_from_C2RMF_retouched.jpg
 - ii. A Picasso painting
<https://www.tate.org.uk/art/artworks/picasso-weeping-woman-t05010>
 - iii. A Monet painting
<https://www.amazon.com/Japanese-Impressionist-Landscape-Painting-Poster/dp/B09XF5NSMF?th=1>
 - iv. More abstract painting
<https://www.artfinder.com/product/140x110-cm-abstract-painting-landscape-painting-abstract-art/>
 - v. Inkblot/ stained paper
<https://designbundles.net/vectorbum/2162135-dropped-ink-stain-black-liquid-paint-splatter>
- Ask if the pictures are art
 - Are they beautiful?
 - What are the differences between them?
 - Can we make art?

- What is art? And what is beauty?
- 2. Read *The Beautiful Oops* by Barney Saltzberg (10 minutes)
 - a. Ask questions after book
 - i. How does it make you feel when you've made a mistake?
 - ii. Are mistakes okay?
 - iii. Can you turn a mistake into something beautiful?
- 3. Properties (15 mins): Making an art gallery out of Inkblot papers
 - a. Ask students to create something new out of an inkblot on paper
 - i. Tell us about your art.
 - ii. Do you think your picture is art?
 - iii. Should it be in a museum?
 - iv. Is it beautiful?
- 4. If we have time, play (Night at the) Museum (5 minutes)
 - a. The kids pretend to be statues in a museum while a guard walks around the room
 - b. When the guard's back is turned, the kids change positions
 - c. If they are caught moving by the guard, they are out