

Philosophy for Children teaching class summary for 10/10

Class time is 42 minutes in total.

Goal and objectives:

- Encourage children to think about the identity of forms in their minds
- Rethink how their schema works
- Understand the properties of objects and their change over time
- Challenge their assumptions on properties by introducing Big questions.
- Establish tone for the semester and future classes.

1. Introductions (5 minutes)

- a. 5-10 minutes for the first day, shorter later on; we will do maybe 5 minutes for the future
- b. We want to do an icebreaker
 - i. What is your name and favorite thing to do
 - ii. And age?

2. Question time

- a. (5 minutes)
- b. What do you guys think about?
- c. There are different kinds of questions, big questions and questions,
 - i. Ex. where is the pencil? In my hand, see there is an answer. That is concrete
 - ii. Do you guys have an idea what might be a big question? What makes you “you”? What is a friend?
 - iii. Big questions can sometimes be daunting, but when we are here, we want to encourage you to ask big questions. Now, we will do an activity with some questions and then bigger questions...

3. Properties (15 mins)

- a. Free choice: Ask students to draw anything (5 minutes)
 - i. How do you know it is what you drew
 - ii. For example, a student says they drew a dog; what makes it a dog? Descriptions.
- b. Specific: Tell students we have x object. (5 minutes)
 - i. Hand out paper and ask them to draw the object
 - ii. Students present what they drew
 1. What does their object look like
 - a. Why did they make confident choices?
 2. How do their peers' drawings look
 - a. Are the differences correct?
 - b. Did you make these choices based off preferences, prior knowledge, or philosophical reasons?
- c. Reveal the stuffed animal of a cat (5 minutes)

*** dont try to cover everything; pick one or two and stick with them***

- i. Reactions?
- ii. Is this a cat? Why? What makes this a cat?
- iii. Is a lion a cat?

4. Little movement and mind break (2 minutes)

- a. We haven't decided what to do yet, but we want a little movement break.

5. "Ship of Theseus" (10 minutes)
 - a. We want to have a simple structure made of Legos in two forms, one in one color and one in another.
 - i. Ship of Theseus questions
 - b. At what point does removing particular objects make the house a different one? Is it the original if I use the other prices to build a different house?
 - c. How did the objects change over time?
 - i. Are they still the same? Do they have the same properties?
6. Debrief and discuss (5 minutes)
 - a. We want to have time for them to ask questions and for us to maybe ask questions about what they learned.
 - i. Is what an object looks like a determining factor of what it is? (obviously, these questions will be simplified)
 - ii. What is confusing you guys?
 - iii. Questions mainly from them

Item list

- Cat stuffed animal
- Lego blocks
- Prebuilt items Lego (we will make these Thursday before or Wednesday)









