

INTERVIEW SCHEDULE: CURRICULUM AND RELATIONSHIPS

(December, March, June)

Interviewer: Pat Carini

Date: December 2, 1976

Teacher: Taxa

Group: 1

Curriculum

1. What curricular themes have been dominant?
2. For each in turn--describe:
  - source
  - extensions
  - involvement of individuals/groups
  - supports (books, other adults, trips)
  - discussions
  - duration
  - integration with academics
3. For each in turn--what questions were raised by the children and how were they focused?
4. For each in turn--what potential does the teacher see for continuation, re-engagement, connections with other parts of the curriculum, setting?

DESIGN

EXTENSIONS  
SCRATCH  
PAINTING  
MULTI-COLORED  
CRAYONS  
PRINTING  
HAND/FOOT

There has been a dominant interest in design that has involved all of the children, but has had special focus among *the girls and Forrest*. It originated within the basic materials of the classroom--drawing, magic markers, etc. Extensions provided by Taxa have included scratch painting, multi-colored crayons, printing and hand and foot prints, layered salt, and rubbings. A specific extension developed by the children from within an activity was the

LAYERED SALT RUBBINGS "NEGATIVE"	discovery of the "negative" in rubbings. Tara encouraged the extension from rubbing to printing particularly to encourage the girls to experiment with messier activities. Ina, Carla, Alva, and Emma tried foot printing.
DRAWING TRAPS--MONSTERS EXTENSION BOOK: MOVIE MONSTERS	The dominant themes in drawing this fall have been traps (most of the boys) and monsters. Everyone has been involved with the monster theme; Tara brought in a book, <u>Movie Monsters</u> , that everyone has looked at repeatedly and really enjoyed it.
SEWING	Sewing has involved everyone and many within the group are expert with a needle. Projects such as the hand puppets have resulted in beautiful work.
SELF-SUSTAINING	This interest is self-sustaining but does present a management problem: threading needles, help with technical problems demands Tara's presence and limits her availability to other kids.
PLANNED EXTENSION XMAS STOCKINGS	Tara plans a Christmas project in sewing--maybe stockings.
WEAVING FINGER, STRAW CROCHET	Weaving has involved Mia, Alice, Carla, Ina, Gina, Grace--and Mara has tried but her fingers are less nimble. Besides finger and simple weaving, projects have included straw weaving and crochet.
PLANNED EXTENSIONS KNITTING	Tara's next extension will be knitting.
DRAMATICS BIG BLOCKS LITTLE BLOCKS BIG ROOM SMALL WORLDS	Dramatics, either in big blocks, little blocks, Big Room, or small worlds, have engaged everyone. The activity largely sustains itself, needing only suggestions such as the Clothespin Dolls (Dec. 2) to vary it. Except for Gina and Ina, everyone has been in big blocks; Tara is working on them as the activity would be good for both--they aren't terribly daring. Little blocks has had a theme of towers and roads. Participants have included Duane, Jonah, Merce, Ben, Mick, Alex, Leo, Brad, Lisa, Miriam, Dwight, Guy, Forrest. Forts and Traps have emerged in drawing, outside, and in small worlds. Duane, Leo, and Brad have been especially involved; drew books of traps. Tara wants to lead this to tunnels, and particularly to involve Dwight.
THEMES TOWERS/ROADS FORTS/TRAPS	
PLANNED EXTENSION TUNNELS	
GLUING COLLAGE	Gluing and collage has continued to involve most everyone in much the way it has from the beginning of the fall.

	COOKING	Cooking is popular with everyone. The problem is supervision of the kitchen. To offset this
PLANNED	EXTENSION JUICES	Tara is planning more non-cook cooking. The first project will be juices: orange juice; orange-grapefruit juice, etc.
	SCIENCE	This group continues to be fascinated with science. Tara has continued her practice of introducing an experiment in Group meeting and then providing opportunities for replication. This area has also continued to provide productive discussions.
	PROJECTS	<u>Projects (Examples):</u>
	MAGNETS ELECTRO-MAGNETS	Magnets and electro-magnets--(needed support suggestion to get past just picking things up; particular fascination with the electro-magnet picking up the magnet).
	STATIC ELECTRICITY	Static electricity--bits of glass over shredded paper--rubbing with nylon to make paper jump and adhere to glass.
	HEAT RISING	Heat rising--two bottles, hot and cold water (cold on top) of different colors. Result: color mixing.  This last experiment had a special appeal for the group because of their intense interest in color.
	EXTENSIONS DISCUSSIONS COLOR ANIMALS	There was a series of discussions on colorful things, animals, etc.
	PAPER DIPPING TIE-DYING PRISMS	Paper dipping was another extension and after Christmas, Tara plans tie-dying. Also prisms.
	OPTICAL ILLUSIONS BOOK: THE WIZARD OF OP	Optical illusions--Tara brought in a book that fascinated the group, <u>The Wizard of Op</u> . Experiments in illusion, included "spinners" that raised the question (from Ina), "How does it get bigger (when spinning)?" "Spinners" prompted Tara to bring in a metronome to take apart, and then a metronome to just watch. Discussions from this experience included considerations of back and forth, round and round, and a description of the metronome's sound.
	EXTENSIONS METRONOME DISCUSSIONS BACK/FORTH AROUND/SOUND	
	RHYTHM INSTRUMENTS	The discussion of sound led to rhythm instruments.
PLANNED:	PENDULUMS TIMING BOUNCING RHYTHM PERCUSSION INSTRUMENTS DRUMS	Future plan: pendulums and timing (Forrest), bouncing and rhythm, and percussion instruments--perhaps to make drums.