



EXPLORING AND EXPERIMENTING Spark'ing Investigation

November 20-22, 2015

OBJECT OF SESSION:

To use Spark's interests and talents in developing unit meetings.

Why does Inquiry-Based learning works for Sparks? Why does investigation style meeting work successfully?

Inquiry-Based Learning by definition is posing questions, problems or scenarios—rather than simply presenting established facts or portraying a smooth path to knowledge. The process is often assisted by a facilitator (Ministry of Education, Ontario).

The Sparks are engaged in an idea that is of interest to them, but it is also something that helps you get a message portrayed that matches with the Spark program, as well as any special crests or activities.

Activity Tools: Spark'ing Interest with Book Examples

Beautiful Oops! Barney Saltzberg 2010

The Most Magnificent Thing Ashley Spires 2014

This is NOT a Stick Antoinette Portis 2007

This is NOT a Box Antoinette Portis 2006

Mix it UP! Herve Tullet 2014

Why? Catherine Ripley 2010

The Imaginary Garden Andrew Larsen 2009

Chrysanthemum Kevin Henkes

***Chandra's Magic Light Theresa Heine and Judith

Gueyfier

***Dara's Clever Trap

Extension Activities for all books: Could these activities help launch your cookie sales? Could these activities help launch a new fun activity? Could you use these activities at camp? Supporting the Sparks with Inquiry-Based Learning opportunities, Sparks get the chance to own their learning. Getting the girls involved in the activities and letting them lead the learning, they will be able to use the application in their everyday life.

***Text from Barefoot Books. Please connect with Session leader if you wish to order the book or your local Barefoot Books representative.



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Template for Inquiry-Based Meeting

Focus of Activity:	Timeline of Activity: Meeting/Month	
Inquiry Method: Books/Presenter/Internet/Survey/		Interest/Motivation for Sparks:
Hook:	Materials Needed:	
Action:	Materials Needed:	Connection to Spark Program:
Consolidation:	Materials Needed:	
Reflection		
Follow Up:	Reaction:	

The Imaginary Garden, Author: Andrew Larsen

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Focus of Activity: Sparks have the chance to explore mixed media art with clay and pencil and tell their own story.		Timeline of Activity: 1 Meeting	
Inquiry Method: Books/Presenter/Internet/Survey/		Interest/Motivation for Sparks: Sparks get the chance to combine different art materials together. Discussions about the interest that illustrators can make with using a combination of tools. Work on Spark'ing imagination and individual creativity.	
Hook: Introduce the cover of the book to the Sparks. Ask them what the story may be about. Next, ask the Sparks how might the illustrator makes the story interesting in pictures. Read through the story.	Materials Needed: -The Imaginary Garden		
Action: Ask girls what the illustrator did the same throughout the entire story (Mix Media Art) Have the girls use clay, pencil and white paper to create a mixed media picture themselves. *Extension: Girls write a story about their picture to be the author and the illustrator.	Materials Needed: -Clay, white paper, pencil - Other books with mix media art - Lined paper*		Connection to Spark's Program: Experimenting
Consolidation: Let the Sparks share their pictures and either read their stories out loud or come up with a story orally. Talk with the Sparks about how we all had the same materials and came up with different stories.	Materials Needed:		
Reflection			
Follow Up: Were the Sparks able to come up with something individually? Were the Sparks interested in mix media art? Were they able to connect in any way?		Reaction: Was it a positive reaction to the activity? Was there negative reaction to the activity? Were there Sparks not engaged? Were there Sparks misusing the materials?	

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Beautiful Oops!, Author: Barney Saltzberg

Focus of Activity: Mistakes are okay! Mistakes helps us learn, and we learn how to react to mistakes we make. Looking at a mistake in a different way will help us figure out a solution.		Timeline of Activity: 2 meetings
Inquiry Method: Books/Presenter/Internet/Survey/		Interest/Motivation for Sparks: Sparks learn how to react to mistakes and work with the mistake. All people make mistakes, it is important to learn how to react to the mistake.
Hook: Survey girls if they have ever made a mistake. Talk about ways we reacted to the mistake. What kind of emotions do we feel? What does our body do? Share a personal example and a solution you used to help you be successful. Read through Beautiful Oops! As you are reading through the story point out the examples from the story.	Materials Needed: Personal example of making a mistake that Sparks could connect or and understand. - Beautiful Oops!	
Action: Let the Sparks turn their mistakes (see materials) into something new.	Materials Needed: Mistakes (stained paper, ripped paper, broken or ripped art materials) and a variety of other art materials to support Sparks	
Consolidation: Explore how the mistake first made us feel? How did we react to it? What did we turn it into? Did it become beautiful? Did it make us try hard? Conclude with reflection on how we can use the same mind set when we are faced with any problem.	Materials Needed:	
Reflection		
Follow Up: Were the Sparks able to make appropriate feeling connections? Were the Sparks able to look at mistakes differently?	Reaction: Did the Sparks enjoy the art activity? Were they able to use the mistake in their art? Were they able to connect their emotions?	

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This is NOT a Stick Antoinette Portis 2007 This is NOT a Box Antoinette Portis 2006

Focus of Activity: We all view a task something differently.		Timeline of Activity: 4 meetings	
Inquiry Method: Books/Presenter/Internet/Survey/		Interest/Motivation for Sparks: Sparks learn how to appreciate differences in others.	
Hook: Survey Sparks to see what they see when they see a stick. Read through This is NOT a Stick and as you are reading through the story point out the examples from the story. (This activity can be done with both stories and just one of stories.) After reading through the story, the girls take a chance to add one to the end of the story with or without a prop.		Materials Needed: Stick - This is NOT a Stick	
Action: Let the Sparks write their own story with the prompting of This is NOT a _____. You can either print the prompt multiple times for each Spark (found on the next page) or just provide the girls with paper and write out on their own.		Materials Needed: Template, or white paper, pencil, pencil crayon	
Consolidation: Let the Sparks share their stories. Talk about appropriate language to praise each other, support the hard work their fellow Sparks hard work.		Materials Needed:	
Reflection			
Follow Up: Were the Sparks able to make appropriate feeling connections? Were the Sparks able to look at mistakes differently? Were the Sparks able to praise each other's work and creativity?		Reaction: Did the Sparks enjoy the art activity? Were they able to connect their emotions? How did the girls react to each other? What kind of language did they use with each other?	

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This is NOT a _____,
it is a _____.

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Quick Session Ideas: Quick Lesson Ideas

Beautiful Oops! Barney Saltzberg

- ✓ Use variety of odds and end art material from unit to create an art piece
- ✓ Spill paint on a large piece of paper and girls work together to make a single picture
- ✓ Roll paint in marble and then over paper and Sparks use this the dried paper to make a picture
- ✓ Make comic book/flip book about a mistake they have made and how they reacted

The Most Magnificent Thing Ashley Spires

- ✓ Create a play-doh based creation and then pass to neighbour to be made into something new or decompose individually and rebuilt
- ✓ Working on our emotions when our creations get broken
- ✓ Playing a mirror, mirror game of following each other emotions and exploring how each other feels when you upset others
- ✓ Going on a walk and talking about the imperfect things that are perfect in our eye

This is NOT a Stick Antoinette Portis This is NOT a Box Antoinette Portis

- ✓ Sparks write out story – template attached
- ✓ Use Girl Guide cookies as a way to tell a story together using prompt “This is not a Girl Guide cookie, it is a ...”
- ✓ Create posters to sell Girl Guide cookies using prompt “This is not a Girl Guide cookie, it is a..”
- ✓ Tell stories using an object (i.e. stick, Girl Guide cookie, bat cut out, badge)



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Mix it UP! Herve Tullet

- ✓ Mash the Girl Guide cookies together (imagination) and Sparks come up with a new flavour
- ✓ Make a colour with paint and dip their finger into the paint and create a dove with their finger prints with a focus on peace and remembrance
- ✓ Create new colours with paint and dot the background of a piece of paper, Sparks then trace hand and place on top of painting – Focus on diversity and inclusion
- ✓ Create sun catcher or candle holder for Mother's Day/Grandparent's Day
- ✓ Exploding Milk experiment
- ✓ Walking Water experiment
- ✓ Visiting a florist shop to talk about dying flowers different colours

Why? Catherine Ripley

- ✓ Explore the questions in the book through experiment
- ✓ Find answer to questions by knowing where to look in a library with a field trip to a library
- ✓ Find experiments on my Pinterest or internet or library books

The Imaginary Garden Andrew Larsen

- ✓ Create mixed media art with pencil and clay
- ✓ Plant a plot of land in a community garden
- ✓ Make a garden with buttons, gems and figures in peanut butter clay
- ✓ Use large paper to create an imaginary garden with paper, paper and other art materials and hung up and play as an imaginary play station
- ✓ Visiting a florist shop to talk about different kinds of flowers and how to take care of them

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Chrysanthemum Kevin Henkes

- ✓ Craft Connections using hearts to make Chrysanthemum's name and then kids write their name why it is perfect
- ✓ Cut out tissue paper heart and talk about before speaking, to think because it's hard to fix a wrinkled heart
- ✓ Share 3 reasons why they are happy to be them in a sharing circle

***Chandra's Magic Light: A Story in Nepal Theresa Heine and Judith Gueyfier

- ✓ Create Pizza Box Solar Oven
- ✓ Helping other people by donating clothes, collecting money to help, spreading the word about life in other countries
- ✓ Determining how girls in other countries celebrate their birthday
- ✓ Visiting a local farm and seeing the machines that make our life better and if we didn't have them, what would happen

***Dara's Clever Trap: A Story from Cambodia Liz Flanagan

- ✓ Design a boat that will float in water
- ✓ Design a bench that will support a leader
- ✓ Make a trip to a local Lowe's, Home Depot or hardware store to build an item out of a variety of materials
- ✓ Design a Marshmallow and Spaghetti tower with the greatest height
- ✓ Talk a walk to look at buildings in the neighbourhood with a variety of designs

Want more out of these books? Want more ideas?

Join me on Pinterest for more ideas and feel free to add ideas to the board to help Spark leaders connect in one location.

Pinterest: <https://www.pinterest.com/smscott127/>

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