

Background

At the LTT week at KMH, Stockholm, students from Berlin and Stockholm took part in a workshop with the task of creating a lesson with different parts from the curriculum. Before that I gave a lecture on the Swedish curriculum, a workshop with an example lesson from my school. They had also visited my school to observe how I work in a lesson with a class of children.

Ingela Kågebo

One example from that creative workshop was this lesson:

Student ideas for a lesson ages 7-9 “In the hall of the Mountain King”

From the curriculum:

- Singing and playing in various forms
- Imitation and improvisation with movement, rhythm and tones
- Interpretation of songs and narratives with sound, rhythm and movement.
- Associations, thoughts, emotions and images that arise when listening to music
- Different instruments from groups of wind, string, keyboard and percussion instruments.
- Sound and appearance of those instruments

- Entering the room-music: “In the hall of the Mountain King” by Edvard Grieg
 - Meet the children at the door and ask them to find and walk the pulse in the music. When the music stops they will go to their seats.
- Expressing emotions in movement:
 - Ask the children how they felt when they heard the music. If they for example answer “scared”, then everybody should get up and walk/move expressing that emotion. Let them try 3-4 different emotions the same way.
- Biography of the composer and a little about the piece:
 - Tell the class about Edvard Grieg and the piece “In the hall of the Mountain King” as a story/fairytale, and let the children take part as actors, acting out what’s happening in the story while you’re telling it.
- About instruments in the orchestra:
 - Listen to the piece again and ask the children what instruments they hear. Bring pictures of the instrument and mimic the playing of each instrument and tell some facts about it. You can also introduce terms like solo, pizzicato, legato, accelerando, etc.

- Sing something that you usually sing in your lessons and let the brain rest for a short while.
- Final exercise - Listen and move like an orchestra:
 - Put the instrument pictures on the floor like an orchestra. The children can move around and listen to what instrument they hear. Go to that picture and move like playing or freely for a short while. Then change to another instrument and new moves.

