

WINDOWS ON YOUR WORLD

1. SUNSHINE AND SHADOWS

MAKING THIS WORK FOR YOU



1 ICEBREAKER

This is an opportunity for everyone to get to know each other a little bit better.

Gather children into a seated circle on the floor. Teacher, classroom assistants (and any conservation architect facilitator) to join the circle – ideally seated on the floor.

CIRCLE TIME RULES APPLY

Look

Listen

Concentrate

Speaking

Thinking

3 SHARING LEARNING

Help from classroom assistants and/or volunteer parents should make it possible to talk about each drawing by working in groups of no more than six.

Consider using quieter breakout spaces so everyone can hear.

When you select a drawing ask the 'artist' to identify him or herself.

Ask the rest of the learning group to describe to the 'artist' what they see in his or her drawing. From time to time check back with the 'artist' to see if they've identified what's in the drawing correctly.

Once the group's collective knowledge is exhausted highlight different parts of the drawing to introduce new words and information.

Maintain interest by moving onto another drawing after a few minutes. Expand on learning with periodic prompt questions.

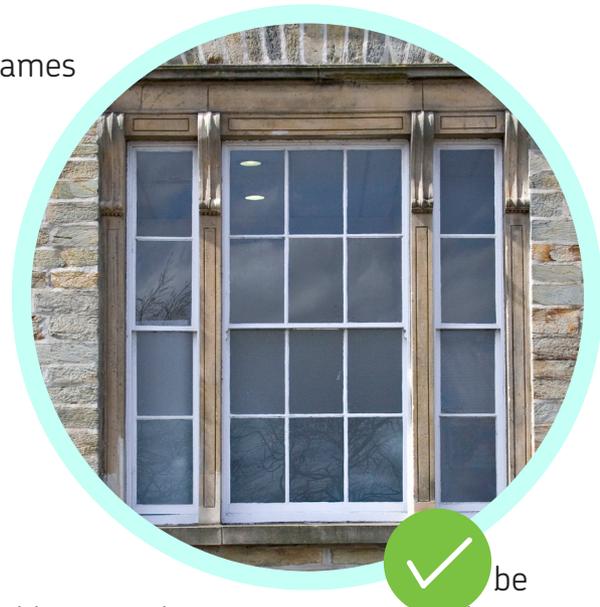
5 SUNSHINE AND SHADOWS - PAINTING WINDOW SHADOW PATTERN

Choose suitable old windows

Look for old windows with the original old frames and clear glass. If you don't have old windows in your school or house look for somewhere nearby that does. Avoid modern PVCu or aluminium replacement windows in old buildings

Decide on the size of your groups.

The size of workable groups depends on how high the sun is in the sky and space available. When the sun is high the size of the window shadow pattern will be relatively small on the floor and you should be able to work in the classroom.



When the sun is lower in the sky the window shadow pattern is long across the floor, sometimes falling onto walls too. It's best if it falls entirely on the floor.

Look for possibilities in larger rooms like:

- school canteens
- corridors
- assembly halls

Large window shapes

When the window shadow pattern is large and you've enough open space the children have great fun and make speedy progress if they all work together.

Small window shapes

When the window shadow pattern is small limit groups to six people.

Preparation

Tape sheets of lining wallpaper over the window shadow patterns on the floor. You may need to tape two or three sheets side by side. Use painter's masking tape to secure the wallpaper along the edges and at joins.

Avoid painting the floor!

Window shadow patterns move slowly. Extend lining paper a reasonable distance each side of the shadow pattern. Slip old newspapers under the free edges of the lining wallpaper.

Old T shirts/aprons protect uniforms or clothes. Working in sock soles prevents wet paint being walked around the school/house later.

Choosing the right time

If you are in the northern hemisphere, the best time to run this exercise falls:

- between late May and late September
- when the sun is highest in the sky - ie late morning until early afternoon

On a sunny, cloudless day during this time period window shadow patterns will be sharp.

You could also run this between:

- late April – mid May and late September – early October
- late morning until early afternoon

At these times of the year window shadow patterns will be much longer. The weaker sun's rays result in shadow patterns that are less sharply defined.

Avoid winter months, wherever you are in the world!

