



PAPER PLATE FACE SONGS

Materials you need:

- Packet of paper plates
- Magazine pictures of different eyes. Noses, mouths
- PVA glue watered down a little
- Glue brushes

Setup for play:

- Work together as a group with the older children to choose facial features to paste on the plates and make faces with different emotions.
- Keep it simple and talk about why that feature makes a face look grumpy, sad or happy.
- When you have at least one face for the emotions happy, sad, angry (you can of course do more if you want to – just cater to the age of your children) tape a craft stick to the back of each plate so you can easily hold them up.
- In a group musical game sing 'If your happy and you know it' together. Now hold up the angry face plate and sing 'if you are angry and you know it' and let children make their own actions to show they are feeling grumpy.
- Each time hold up a different plate face, ask them what emotion that is then sing and act out together.

What are they learning with this activity?

As the children make the faces then sing and match to actions they are learning to:

- Use hand/eye coordination skills and concentration
- Manipulate small objects using pincer movements
- Strengthen fine motor muscles, visual motor integration and control
- Express their ideas creatively to help make meaning
- Recognise symbols and how things can represent other things
- Understand basic position concepts
- Listen to and follow directions
- Become aware of connections, similarities and differences between people
- Use language and sound to communicate their thinking
- Express emotions and use gestures.
- Explore the unique aspects of their identity through simple actions and play
- Recognise the contributions they make to shared projects and experiences

Extending the play:

- Use old CD's or round corkboards (find them cheaply in the kitchen section in most supermarkets) – add sticker shapes or similar for children to peel off and place on the corkboard or old CD disc to create their own unique faces.
- Cut out an oval piece of felt and add a basket of loose parts like wool, fabric scraps, buttons, pebbles, kitchen items etc for them to arrange into faces on the felt.

