

## **Unit Three: Small Group Explorations**

For Unit 2, we explored our emotions in groups of two. Let's continue to elevate the experience with a storytelling activity designed for small groups!

## **Tableaux Activity**

We use tableaux for a range of reasons, like exploring non-verbal communication and storytelling. Watch the videos to the right to get a better sense of how tableaux work before trying this out with your students.



Click each figure to learn more about tableaux

in small groups, see if they can retell a well-known story like the *Three Little Pigs*, using just their bodies and three frozen pictures to represent the beginning, middle, and end. Remember, this activity should be silent, communicating non-verbally with just our body language. Similar to the Sculpture activity from Unit 2, students should focus on being as still as possible during each pose. After students begin to understand how this activity works, they can then begin work together to start exploring their own simple story scenarios with this beginning, middle, and end structure.

Tableaux are useful for internalizing emotions, and how they might manifest in our body language. As you work through different story scenarios, try and focus some attention on the emotional component; what feelings are the characters trying to convey? What do you see that makes you think that?

You can also use tableaux to process conflict, acting out with frozen pictures what "happened" during an incident. They're also great for thinking ahead possible issues that might arise in a situation. If students are able to "see" consequences of certain behaviors, they might be more likely to avoid them when faced with them in reality.

## **Tableaux in Action**

Here are some examples of how teachers integrated tableaux into their lessons

The ABC's

<u>Fairy Tale Tableaux</u> <u>Exploring famous people</u>