



Mother Hens

Procedure

Tell the children a story about a mother hen whose little chicks have no feathers to protect themselves from the rain. During the story, use fans or trays as simulated wings and show how the mother hen would use them to protect her chicks. As you repeat the story's details, add sound effects of the mother hen clucking. Have the children make the sounds of the chicks peeping as they seek shelter and protection.

Issues

Physical insecurity, emotional insecurity, a need to be protected.

Purpose

To provide an opportunity for children to protect others and help themselves at the same time.

Materials

Large fans or woven trays.

Ask the children to form teams of five or six and give each team two fans or trays. Designate who will play mother hen and have them perform the story. Repeat, allowing each child to have a turn as mother hen providing safety and protection by holding up or spreading out the fans as make-believe wings.

Suggestions

Discuss the children's feelings about the story. What did it feel like when you were being protected? What were your feelings when you were being the mother and protecting others?

