



Approfittiamo dell'allegria del Carnevale e dell'entusiasmo che le maschere riscuotono presso i nostri alunni per arricchire il vocabolario con gli aggettivi utili a descrivere i personaggi in cui i bambini scelgono di identificarsi.



It's Carnival time

Carnival is traditionally a time of colourful celebration with spectacular masks and costumes seen in Venice and lively floats parading through the streets of Viareggio. Throughout Italy carnival is celebrated with children dressing up and people throwing brightly coloured confetti and streamers at each other. Using this as a starting point take into the classroom some

<u>Spunti di lavoro</u>

Make a mask

Ask the children to bring in the necessary materials to make a mask. Photocopy the template of a simple mask which each child can then personalize. It is a good idea to have a mask already made to show them. This is an excellent occasion to use classroom language for real communication so make sure that all the instructions and actions e.g. cut, stick, fold and so on are given in English! It is a good idea to have these instructions with matching illustrations permanently on the classroom wall so that you can point to them when you need to. Go around the class, commenting and encouraging the children as they work. pictures of the fancy masks made and worn in Venice. Explain that by wearing a mask people can change their identity and become someone else. Invite the children to tell you who they would like to be, rephrasing what they say in English. Write on the board a list of *characters* that the children suggested, for example *Harry Potter*, *a pirate*, *a queen* and so on.

Descriptions

Observing the masks the children have made compile a list of words they need to describe their characters. Elicit from the children describing words they already know such as *happy*, *sad*, *big*, *small*; then teach any new ones they need, e. g. *strong*, *angry*. After consolidating the new vocabulary write the words on the board and ask to choose one or two words which describe their character. Invite them to introduce themselves *Hello*, *I'm a wicked wizard/I'm a strong robot* and so on.

I look in the mirror

Take a mirror into the classroom and find out if the children know what it's called in English. If not teach the new word. Ask them what they use a mirror for and then place the mirror at the front of the class and teach the following chant.

I look in the mirror. What do I see? I see(character) looking at me.

Invite individual children wearing their masks to come up to the mirror while the rest of the class say the chant. The child in front of the mirror must then answer for example, *I see a beautiful queen looking at me*. Repeat over several lessons so that each child has an opportunity to look into the mirror and respond.

An action song

To consolidate the adjectives the children have learnt and transmit the feeling of carnival time teach the action song *If you're happy and you know it* which can be found on SIM web site. To make the song more interesting sing some verses softly, others loudly or quickly and slowly.

Assessment

Ask the children to draw a picture of their chosen character and a speech bubble as in a cartoon strip where they must write for example, *Hello, I'm a happy pirate.*