

Doodle 4 Google Ireland 'If I could create anything it would be...'



Lesson 1 – Super Powers!

Junior/Senior Infants, 1st Class, 2nd Class, 3rd Class

Doodle 4 Google is an exciting competition that gives pupils the chance to create a piece of art and design work with the potential to be seen by millions of people on the Google IE homepage.

The aim of this lesson plan is to equip pupils to enter this year's Doodle 4 Google competition, on the theme of 'If I could create anything it would be...'. It contains activities to introduce the theme and inspire their imagination, as well as guidance for creating their entries.

Curriculum links

Subject: The Arts Education – Visual Arts

Strand: Drawing; paint and colour

Aims:

- To enable the child to explore, clarify and express ideas, feelings and experiences through a range of arts activities
- To provide for aesthetic experiences and to develop aesthetic awareness in the visual arts
- To develop the child's awareness of, sensitivity to and enjoyment of visual, aural, tactile and spatial qualities in the environment
- To enable the child to develop natural abilities and potential, to acquire techniques
- To practise the skills necessary for creative expression and for joyful participation in different art forms
- To enable the child to see and to solve problems creatively through imaginative thinking and so encourage individuality and enterprise
- To foster a sense of excellence in and appreciation of the arts in local, regional, national and global contexts, both past and present

- To value the child's confidence and self-esteem through valuing self-expression
- To foster a critical appreciation of the arts for personal fulfilment and enjoyment.

Objectives:

Junior/Senior Infants:

Make drawings based on everyday objects using their imagination and creativity.

1st Class, 2nd Class:

Use their imagination to transform everyday objects into inventive drawings to create something new.

3rd Class:

Express his/her imagination through inventive drawing to create new objects, exploring pattern and detail.

Note: Although the lesson is primarily art-based, it also supports Languages – English and the Social, Personal and Health Education Curriculum.

Materials and equipment

- Digital projector connected to the internet to enable pupils to view the Google logo and images (if not available, printed images could be used)
- Google logo templates available from <http://doodles.google.ie/d4g/>
- Examples of Google doodles for special events from www.google.ie/logos
- Plain A4 paper
- Large sheets of paper
- A selection of tools and materials for graphic activities, such as colouring pencils, felt tips and paints
- Real objects (optional, see below)
- Magazines, newspapers or catalogues from which to make collages.

Activities

1. Super Powers

- a) As a warm up, ask pupils to sit in a circle. Ask each pupil to name their favourite superhero and what their superpower is. Ask pupils what superpower they would like to have themselves. Explain that superpowers enable normal people to do impossible things.
- b) Explain that things that are new or different can sometimes seem impossible. Tell pupils that some very ordinary things once didn't exist – like forks or shoes. Ask them to think about what the world would be like without them!
- c) Show pupils some Google images of everyday objects (e.g. a fork, shoes, a wheel, a vase, a peg, a paintbrush, a watering can, a bin, a chair, a comb). Actual real objects could also be circulated around pupils.
 - Talk about each object to get pupils' thoughts: *What it is used for? Why is it helpful? Who uses it?*
 - Less confident speakers could mime how they use each object.
- d) Introduce the terms 'creating' and 'inventing' to explain that someone came up with the idea for each object and made their idea real. Ask pupils what's interesting about these objects: *Why is it that shape? What is it made of? What does it feel like to touch?*
- e) With your pupils, choose one object to focus on. Ask how could they make it better. *What would the object be like if it were made in a different material? What else could this object be used for?*
- f) Ask pupils to imagine if, like people, objects had superpowers.
 - Ask questions to guide their imagination: *What extra thing could an object do that would be fun or new? What extra features could it have? Could it have a different shape? Who would want to use it?*
 - By contrast, ask what things an object can't do, and how that could be changed.
- g) Give each pupil a large sheet of paper, ask pupils to create an object with a super power of their choice. Depending on their ability, pupils could either write words or sentences, draw pictures, or cut out and glue images from magazines, newspapers or catalogues.

2. The competition

Introduce the Doodle 4 Google competition and tell the pupils that they are going to be entering it by creating their own brilliant doodle. Show an example of the Google logo at www.google.ie/logos. You may also like to show the video on the Doodle 4 Google website. Discuss the way that the doodles work with the logo template, with different objects, colours, scenes and shapes creating the letters.

3. Start doodling

Ask pupils to use the ideas they have explored in the previous activities to create an entry for this year's competition, on the theme of 'If I could create anything it would be'. They will express the ideas through drawing and experiment with different media and colours. They should chiefly think about:

- What their creation is for
- What shapes and parts there are
- How their creation works

Give pointers about how to match drawings to the template. Pupils could start with a rough design and then move on to a finished piece of work. You may also wish to give pupils time to practise their designs at home.

4. Doodle gallery

Make a gallery of finished doodles on the classroom wall. Ask pupils to try and identify different creations in some of the doodles and then ask the artists to talk about their ideas.

5. Supporting statement

When pupils are happy with their doodle, they should give it a title. Help them write a short statement of no more than 50 words about how their work represents 'If I could create anything it would be...'. They could name their creation, explain who it is for, how it is used and what it is made of, and why they think people might want to use it.

Differentiation: Less able pupils may need help to fit their designs to the Google template and in writing their accompanying statements. More able pupils could write a story where their creation is used.

Extension: You could create a giant, whole-class collage of superheroes and superpowers, using drawings, photos and images from the internet, magazines, catalogues and newspapers. Out of school, pupils could be asked to take photographs of their favourite everyday object and do a project to explain what is interesting or special about this object.