

Grade Level: Preschool

Duration: 1 period (45-60 minutes)

Materials Needed:

- Small objects/toys of varying shapes
- White sheets of paper
- Pencils, crayons, or markers
- Tape (to secure paper)

Objective:

By the end of the lesson, students will be able to do the following:

1. Understand the concept of a shadow and how it is created.
2. Practice observing and tracing outlines of shadows.
3. Improve fine motor skills through drawing and colouring.

Lesson Procedure:

Introduction (10 minutes)

- Take the students out in the sun.
- Use a toy/object to explain how shadows are formed.
- Explain the basic concept of light, objects, and shadows in simple terms.
- Ask curious questions, for example: "What do you see under the toy when I hold it in the sunlight?"

Activity Instructions (30 minutes)

- Step 1: Give each child a piece of paper and other objects.
- Step 2: Help them secure their paper and position the objects to cast a shadow.
- Step 3: Have the children trace the shadow silhouette on their paper.
- Step 4: After tracing, allow the children to colour the traced shape as they like.

Guided Discussion (5 minutes)

- Have students observe how shadows change as objects are moved closer or further away from the paper.
- Ask students to observe how the length and direction of the shadow have changed.

Closing (5-10 minutes)

- Show all their artwork for the class to see.

- Review what was learned about shadows.
- Review vocabulary by asking: "What do you need to make a shadow?"

Assessment:

- Observe student's ability to trace shadow outlines and follow directions.
- Ask them to explain their work and describe what they found fascinating.

Extensions:

- Repeat this activity inside using a flashlight to study shadows in a different context.
- Integrate storytelling by asking them to imagine the shadows as part of a story or scene.