



Pantomime

Mama G says Panto is where her heart is. Check understanding with children – what do they know about Pantomime? Have any children been to a Panto? Where does Panto happen? What kinds of stories are told in Panto? Find some short clips of panto to watch with children – include some of the conventions e.g. the Pantomime Dame; 'oh yes she is, oh no she isn't'; characters talking to the audience... How do they make the children feel? Read 'Oh Yes I Am!' together – do they notice things in the book that are similar to what they saw in the videos? Perhaps it's possible for you to organise a trip to the local Panto?

Colours!

Provide resources for children to explore the power of colour. You could set up an independent creative area where everything is colourful – paints, paper, pens, playdough, pipe-cleaners, boxes to decorate etc. Perhaps you have a 'grey' corner of the classroom that needs a colourful 'makeover' with coloured scarves, cushions, blankets. Involve the children in creating this space. What would they like to add – magic wands, dressing up clothes?

Activities for

Oh Yes I Am!

Written by **Mama G**
Illustrated by **Toto**

Libraries, libraries, libraries!

Mama G and Laura say libraries are THE BEST! If you have a school library, encourage children to get involved – can they suggest books; new ways and times to use it; leave book review messages for each other, both written and audio recordings. You could set up a mini library in your classroom. Or set up a library role play area. If you have a local library, you could take a trip there with the children. Mama G says that librarians are magical people, so make sure to look out for the librarian! Is there a question the children would like to ask the librarian? When you get back, ask the children if they saw anything they would like to learn more about?

Oh Yes I Am!

Read 'Oh Yes I Am!' together. Can the children join in with the 'Oh Yes I Am!' lines? Put the illustration of Bobby feeling grey (p.9) and the picture of Bobby being himself (p. 34) side by side on the big screen. In their talking partners, invite the children to suggest words to describe how Bobby feels in each picture – write these on the big screen. Mama G says *the most powerful thing you can be is yourself*. Discuss with the children what 'be yourself' means for Bobby? Invite the children to close their eyes and think about what 'be yourself' means for them. Remind them it can mean anything they like in this moment. Knowing your children, you could provide play mirrors for them to look into and say 'Oh Yes I Am!' to themselves.

