

At the Post Office

After a visit to the post office, the teacher asks children to draw a picture of a post office. What might their drawings tell you about (1) their memory of the trip and (2) their artistic expression?

The teacher is also interested in what new vocabulary the children picked up from the visit. During circle time she says to the children, “Tell me about your picture.” She writes what the children say on mailing labels along with their initials so she can place the words on the pictures after circle time. Here are some of their responses:

Children's Statements About Their Pictures

Here's the mail carrier delivering the mail.

This is the post office box.

Esta es la carta [This is the letter].

These are all the mail.

This is the post office.

It's a mail lady.

This is where you put the mail in a bag.

I wrote my address on the letter.

I put a stamp on the letter.

I went to the post office with my grandma and then we went to the grocery store.

Reflecting on the Documentation

- **What are the benefits to having children draw pictures to help assess learning?**
 - **What are the benefits to having children describe pictures orally to assess learning?**
 - **How might the two approaches enrich one another?**
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Interpreting the Observation

- Hypothesis Building
 - Connecting to the Child Outcomes Framework
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Next Steps

- **Large Group Instruction**
 - **Individualized Instruction**
 - **Planning for Assessment**
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