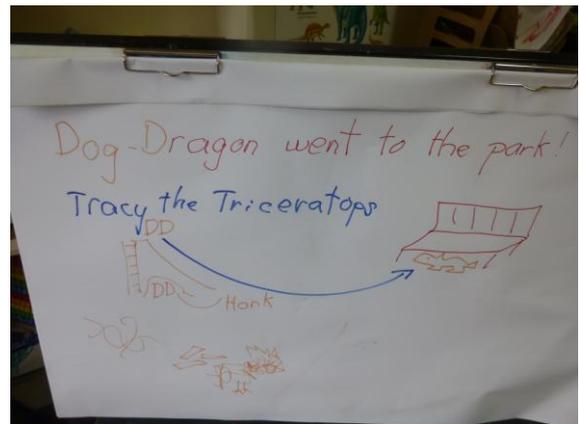


The story of Dog-Dragon and Tracy the Triceratops.

It began with a child's imaginative response to a remnant of a rubber alphabet tile. She saw an animal and that provoked me to see something in another one. She is a dab hand with a hammer so we attached them to blocks of wood and took them to mat time.



Using a large piece of paper, I recorded their key ideas. They named the first one Dog-Dragon, and decided he was going to a park.



And to meet a friend who was called Tracy and who was decided to be a Triceratops! Tracy the Triceratops became a great tongue twister that most of them mastered by the end of the day.

We discussed possible games they might play and settled on hide and seek. This is Tracy hiding.



Dog-Dragon climbed the slide, covered his eyes and counted to twenty! What a great way to integrate numeracy..... we all covered our eyes and counted, loud and clear and then bellowed:”COMING! Ready or not!”.



As you can see, the story was revisited after mat time, taking photographs and helping Dog-Dragon to cover his eyes! And of course the plot thickened a bit at the end, especially once the children started whirling buckets of water over the two of them. The next step was that I

made a small booklet with only the photos and we revisited it a week later and they remembered it (oral literacy) and embellished it (more oral literacy!) and we counted to twenty again... and learnt that if you can only count to ten, you just do it twice!

He slid down the slide, after he got to twenty, and crashed right into Tracy the Triceratops! And so then it was his turn to hide, and he hid under a grey cloth and pretended to be a rock (photo) so that Tracy could not find him.



She looked UNDER the mini-trampoline (photo), she looked UP the tree (photo) and she looked IN the swimming pool (water table!) and then Dog-Dragon made a noise: he went HONK! And she found him! We did not discover if it was a hiccup, a sneeze, a cough, a burp or a fart, but we liked wondering! Then they played some more... swimming,



sandcastles building in the sandpit, surfing!

After this, Dog Dragon went wandering in a small puddle but it began to rain. Harder and harder. Rain from the left, rain from the right!



And finally, rain right on top of him but by then Tracy the Triceratops had found him which made him feel much better.



And now they were both very wet, and so they lay down in the sun under some flowers and got all dry again. And Dog-Dragon said to Tracy the Triceratops, 'These flowers are the same colour as us, aren't they?', and they were – they were bright pink!

The End.

Except it wasn't the end because today the same child asked me to add a tail to a remnant because then it would look like a crocodile and we told another story, which involved a shark, a battle, a doctor and a friendship and was a key provocation for play all afternoon. Watch this space!