

Telling Tales

By Cami Margasoiu

The tipi, the flowers, the river stones, the capes, fairy-like dresses, black singlets, wooden swords, bows ... elements that eventually come together... marvel ... and stir the imagination with their uncomplicated simplicity.

Fantasy has always been a visible attribute in our children's stories... the newly-created setting immerses them physically in a magic-like world... their ideas get to be more focused on fantastic encounters, their stories more abundant with magical adventures featuring beautiful heroines, valiant warriors, deadly monsters, secretive plots, graceful creatures...



Imbibing themselves with supernatural powers while portraying a self-imposed character comes naturally to the preschool children. The insinuation that the colourful gems may be the beholders of some hidden magical powers, has not been received with skepticism by the children, on the contrary, they have exhilaratingly welcomed the idea ... Discovering what powers each individual gem possesses is an ongoing process... endowing them with new ones is also very common... The introduction of these magical tools allows for more complicated plots to be developed.



The girls' fascination with the mystical unicorn has reached new heights...its physical appearance spawns the inception of many debates. Alternative expressive languages allow the girls to mentally enumerate and visually represent these *unicorn-esque* physical features.



As their knowledge is progressively getting more and more abundant and their narrative skills more fantasy-inclined; more factual information tends to purposefully slip its way into our group discussions...The introduction of the Alicorn as a synonymic alternative to "spiraled horn", as well as a legendary winged-born unicorn, gives more depth, more detail, more preciseness to their tales.

Music and free-spirited movement empower the impersonation of these phantasmagoric characters... hands, fingers, backs, tummies, toes, eyes, mouths... dance, complot and make magic happen...



Cartoon- inspired, intricately-shaped robotic characters test their creators' finesse, designing capabilities, technical vocabulary, memory, plot inventivity...

Megatron and its army of Decepticons- "the baddies"- invite the children to playfully familiarize themselves with another *dramatis personæ*: the villain/ the antagonist.

Subconsciously aware of the legendary battle between good and evil, metaphorically represented by the two



armies of robots: Autobots versus Decepticons, the children have been exploring "sword and sorcery" narratives- territory hardly ever explored before. Verbose, interjection-rich fragments, action-abundant scenes mark the children's immersion into this fantasy subgender.

Making up stories is an integral part of the preschoolers' narrative expressivity... be they verbally recounted, be they painted or drawn, be they solely-onomatopoeic or physically- oriented, their stories TELL THE TALE.



Magic as an overtly gender-unbiased narrative approach, creates a reality in which miraculous elements appear seemingly natural and unforced.