



Alana's Cat Tale...



Dear Alana. Here is a tale about how you made your very own cat tail! It all began last week when Rita brought in the "Cats" musical DVD as many of the children have a passion for cat costumes, soft toys and role modelling cats. Many children and teachers alike were captivated by the dancing, singing, costumes, make up and interesting names of the cats. "I like the white cat Raechel," you told me. Luckily I had purchased some calico fabric which was the perfect base for you to create your masterpiece Alana.

What a process it was - first we had to make a pattern by drawing on the fabric, cut it out and then came the fun part - using the fabric paints! Alana you decided that pink and purple were just the right colours so we carefully mixed the paints together till we got the correct shade. You worked carefully painting on stripes and spots with accuracy and precision.

Over the weekend the tail dried and on Monday we were able to iron it to set the paint. Setting up the sewing machine we began to work on the next step of our project. Alana you were so competent at using the sewing machine. This was hardly surprising as over the past few months you have been coming in after the weekends with the most amazing outfits you have sewn over the weekend with your Mum. Your passion, flair and talent for this is so evident with your designs and creations. As the end of your tail was so curly we had to keep stopping, lifting up the foot and repositioning our fabric. This took time and patience and you assisted so well lifting the foot up and down.





Once the sewing was completed we turned the tail out and began the slow process of stuffing it with soft pillow filling. Slowly the tail took shape and soon it was time to measure the elastic to attach for your waist. With one little last bit of sewing to fasten it we were all done!

Alana as soon as you put your tail on you were down on the floor pretending to be a pussy cat, meowing and batting your paws!

What learning was happening for Alana?

Throughout this process Alana worked alongside three other friends who were also following their passion and making their very own tails. Alana used here patience and consideration as she waited for my assistance and was able to offer her valuable sewing skills and knowledge to her friends. I learnt that Alana is so capable with the sewing machine and have a deeper trust for her sewing skills.

Possibilities?

Alana your leadership skills have shined through with this project. I wonder if you may like to support some other friends to make a cat tail too. You would be a great teacher to have alongside us when we are using the sewing machine.

Teacher: Raechel xxx

20th August 2013.

