
An Inspiring Play Moment

~ Kristy Lollar

One morning as our preschool children began indoor play, several five-year-olds built themselves a den and became a pack of wolves with a few tigers included.

Simultaneously, a few children set up house in the play kitchen and began making food to serve at their table. The tigers began to prowl into the kitchen, and those in the kitchen whined and fussed and told them to get out. The tigers weren't listening to them, so I entered the area and told them, "If I saw a tiger or wolf at my door, I would not open it to let them in. If you want to come into the house, you will have to be a person and ring the doorbell. Then you might be invited in."

This changed the whole game. The tigers and wolves became magical. They were still wolves and tigers over in their den, but as they crossed the room, they would stand tall, become human, and ring the

doorbell. Then the friends would invite them in. In fact, the kitchen helpers asked what the visitors would like to eat, and then they would prepare them a feast. The table was filled with jolly eating and talking. Then the visitors would say "thank you" and leave. As they crossed the room again, they would return to their animal forms and proceed to growl and tussle in their den. ♦

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