

## Lois Malaguzzi's account

**Source: Craft, A. et al (eds) (2001) *Creativity in Education*, London, Continuum, p.183**

Suggestions were made [in class assembly] for houses and nests in the trees, swings for chicks to play on, elevators for the elderly birds. Ferris-wheels and rides with music. And then – everyone laughs – water skiing for the birds, providing them with tiny slats of wood for skis. Then came the fountains, which had to be big and real, and spray the water up really high....As part of this project Andrea has drawn an elevator for tired birds. After doing this he goes to the computer corner to build an animated version....Andrea is unable to complete the animation by himself; he takes his project home where his elder sister helps him to finish it. The next day Andrea goes to the school workshop area and adds to the animation a picture of a real bird taken with a digital camera, and records birds singing. Once Andrea has completed his work on the computer he shows it to the class. ...Now there is a new project. The children go out to observe actual elevators and take pictures of them. Then they discuss and draw how they think an elevator works. With the help of Giovanni, Andrea and Alice made an elevator using Lego motors and a sensor attached to a 'programmable brick'. The elevator is to be placed in the amusement park for birds (Malaguzzi, 2000).