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ARTS INTEGRATION IN THE EVERYDAY CLASSROOM

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ABSTRACT

In this presentation, we will look at the effects of bringing art and music into the classroom. Starting with the impacts of art and music individually, it will focus on the effects of art in the classroom and how we can incorporate it into a regular lesson plan. Then, it will focus on music and the effects it has on the classroom and its students. Finally, it will take art and music together, and show the importance of using both in the classroom, how to use them both, and the benefits of using both in the classroom. The dictionary definition of the arts is, “works made through use of the imagination and creative skills by artists” (Webster 2015). Art can be categorized into multiple forms. These forms are visual art, drama, movement, music, and some forms of literature. Visual art can be defined as, “works created by artists: paintings, sculptures, etc., that are created to be beautiful or to express important ideas or feelings” (Webster 2015). Visual art has huge impacts on the students both inside and outside of the school setting. Music can be defined as, “vocal, instrumental, or mechanical sounds having rhythm, melody, or harmony” (Webster 2015). Music can be categorized into multiple genres. These genres consist of classical, rap, techno, country, and Christian, just to name a few. Music has the power to transport people to different places and time period. Music is a huge part of students’ lives and truly impacts their lives both inside and outside of the school setting.

METHODS

Art: Creating a work of art could help students with all sorts of subjects. In math, students could use graphing paper to draw and repeat a shape or design to teach them about reflection over the x and y-axis. For a history lesson, students would observe and recreate famous works from different periods and eras in history. This could be used to show them how art can reflect the things happening in that time period. In science the students would be asked to sculpt the layers of the earth with Play-Doh or clay. For a language-arts lesson, students could look at picture books without the words on the page and see how illustrations are used. This would help the students to understand that the illustrations are used as an extension of the words to communicate the story before it is even read. Music: Creating and utilizing music could help students with all sorts of subjects. In math, you could have your students learn a catchy jingle to help them remember the order of operations. For a history lesson, you could have your students listen to and learn songs about America like America the Beautiful, The Star Spangled Banner, or even The Preamble Song from School House Rock. This could be used to teach them the history of America. Science you could have your students conduct research about sound vibrations created when you play different types of music and find patterns in those vibrations. For a language-arts lesson, you could have your students look at lyrics from songs from different time periods or eras. This would help them to understand that the music in a period or era reflection what is happening in that time.

REFERENCES


RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Art: These methods would add a special and different view point for students to see the material presented in a new way. By changing the way that you approach a lesson and the methods you used, the students can better understand the material. Teachers can rest assured and know that this is true because not all students can or will learn the same way. In every classroom there are multiple types of learners and they need to all be attended to. Students will notice the effort that you are putting in to help them and they will be more amicable to try in the class.

Research suggests that, “there is a full in the development of expression in children’s drawings during the primary school years and that many children give up on art between the ages of 10 and 12” (Hallam, Hewitt, & Buxton, 2014). This tells teachers that if they do not start integrating the arts into the classroom, students may not have any application of the arts at all. Through the students’ interest and use of art in everyday life, the teachers can better see the students abilities and shortcomings sooner than what they would usually have. This helps the teachers know where students are and what they can do to further the students’ education and get them caught up to others before it is too late (Hallam, Hewitt, & Buxton, 2014).

Music: These methods would add a different and unique view point for students to see the material presented in a new way. By adjusting the way that you conduct a lesson and the methods that choose you used, the students will enjoy it more and be more passionate for what they are doing and learning. Teachers can rest assured and know that this is true because different students have different ways that they learn best. Students can be classified as audible, kinesthetic, visual, and tactile learners. Most are actually a mixture of at least two of these. Laird (2015) states that, “group music-making often involves imitation, problem solving through dialogue, and expression of emotion”, meaning that students can better them selves and their academic skills through music (no page number found). If you put in the effort to make lessons applicable, your students will notice and they will be more likely to give their all in the class.