



USE OF MUSIC, DANCE, DRAMA AND ARTS IN EDUCATION

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Introduction:

Where have the arts in education gone? Over the past several years we've all seen the trend of schools cutting the arts from their curriculum. Music, art, theater—gone for so many. Some parents, teachers and students look down on arts education as something unimportant, especially when compared to academic subjects such as language, math and science. However, the value of arts education should not be underestimated because it can actually provide several benefits for the students.

There's no doubt that the arts are fun for kids. Diving into those finger paints and making a beautiful picture to hang on the fridge is awesome. Acting in a play is exhilarating. But the arts also help kids develop on many fundamental levels.

Meaning of Music:

1. An art of sound in time that expresses ideas and emotions in significant forms through the elements of rhythm, melody, harmony, and color.
2. The tones or sounds employed, occurring in single line (melody) or multiple lines (harmony), and sounded or to be sounded by one or more voices or instruments, or both.

Benefits of music:

1. Musical training helps develop language and reasoning:

Students who have early musical training will develop the areas of the brain related to language and reasoning. The left side of the brain is better developed with music, and songs can help imprint information on young minds.

2. A mastery of memorization:

Even when performing with sheet music, student musicians are constantly using their memory to perform. The skill of memorization can serve students well in education and beyond.

3. Students learn to improve their work:

Learning music promotes craftsmanship, and students learn to want to create good work instead of mediocre work. This desire can be applied to all subjects of study.

4. Increased coordination:

Students who practice with musical instruments can improve their hand-eye coordination. Just like playing sports, children can develop motor skills when playing music.

5. A sense of achievement:

Learning to play pieces of music on a new instrument can be a challenging, but achievable goal. Students who master even the smallest goal in music will be able to feel proud of their achievement.

6. Emotional development:

Students of music can be more emotionally developed, with empathy towards other cultures. They also tend to have higher self-esteem and are better at coping with anxiety.

7. Students learn pattern recognition:

Children can develop their math and pattern-recognition skills with the help of musical education. Playing music offers repetition in a fun format.

8. Better SAT scores:

Students who have experience with music performance or appreciation score higher on the SAT. One report indicates 63 points higher on verbal and 44 points higher on math for students in music appreciation courses.

9. Fine-tuned auditory skills:

Musicians can better detect meaningful, information-bearing elements in sounds, like the emotional meaning in a baby's cry. Students who practice music can have better auditory attention, and pick out predictable patterns from surrounding noise.

10. Music builds imagination and intellectual curiosity:

Introducing music in the early childhood years can help foster a positive attitude toward learning and curiosity. Artistic education develops the whole brain and develops a child's imagination.

11. Music can be relaxing:

Students can fight stress by learning to play music. Soothing music is especially helpful in helping kids relax.

12. Musical instruments can teach discipline:

Kids who learn to play an instrument can learn a valuable lesson in discipline. They will have to set time aside to practice and rise to the challenge of learning with discipline to master playing their instrument.

13. Preparation for the creative economy:

Investing in creative education can prepare students for the 21st century workforce. The new economy has created more artistic careers, and these jobs may grow faster than others in the future.

14. Development in creative thinking:

Kids who study the arts can learn to think creatively. This kind of education can help them solve problems by thinking outside the box and realizing that there may be more than one right answer.

15. Music can develop spatial intelligence:

Students who study music can improve the development of spatial intelligence, which allows them to perceive the world accurately and form mental pictures. Spatial intelligence is helpful for advanced mathematics and more.

16. Better self-confidence:

With encouragement from teachers and parents, students playing a musical instrument can build pride and confidence. Musical education is also likely to develop better communication for students.

The Activities

We can use music to keep students awake and more receptive to absorbing content. Here are eight ways to use music for this:

1 Songs to Teach Academic Vocabulary

2 Lyrics as Poetry

3 Songs as Writing Prompts

4 Music to Aid in Role-Playing

5 Developing Playlists to Teach Narrative

6 Jingles to Teach Persuasive

7 Reviews as Literary Analysis

8 Music to take "Syn-naps"

Meaning of Dance:

Dance is a performance art form consisting of purposefully selected sequences of human movement. This movement has aesthetic and symbolic value, and is acknowledged as dance by performers and observers within a particular culture.

Benefits of dance and dance education

- 1) Dance education aids the development of kinesthetic intelligence.
- 2) Dance education creates opportunities for self-expression and communication within the constraints of the medium of the body.
- 3) Dance, whether representational, thematic, or abstract, is a repository of civilization that changes through time.
- 4) Dance education teaches the values and skills of creativity, problem solving, risk taking, making judgments in the absence of rules, and higher-order thinking skills.
- 5) Dance provides an opportunity for students to recognize that there are multiple solutions to problems.
- 6) The study of dance fosters an individual's ability to better interpret interpersonal nonverbal communication.
- 7) Dance education provides a strong base from which to analyze and make informed judgments about corporeal images.
- 8) Learning the dances of other cultures helps students to develop an understanding and respect for them.
- 9) Through stimulating all the senses, dance goes beyond verbal language in engaging dancers and promoting the development of multisensory beings.
- 10) Dance provides options to destructive alternatives in a world that is unpredictable and unsafe for children.
- 11) Dance education prepares people for careers in dance and other fields.
- 12) Dance enhances an individual's lifelong quality of life.
- 13) Participation in dance benefits our communities economically.
- 14) Dance education helps students develop physical fitness, appreciation of the body, concern for sound health practices, and effective stress management approaches.
- 15) Dance education contributes to the National Education .

Activities :

- *Dance as a fine art*, with emphasis on the vocabulary, concepts & skills of dance as a communicative tool;
- *Dance integrated into academic subjects*, as a tool for exploration & expression;

- *Dance as a creative process, aligned & supported by the other fine arts of writing, visual art, music, and theatre;*
- *Dance as an expression of self, culturally & individually.*

Drama :

MEANING :

Drama is a mode of fictional representation through dialogue and performance. It is one of the literary genres, which is an imitation of some action.

Benefits:

1. Drama is part of real life and prepares students to deal with life's problems.

Drama simply allows students the opportunity to rehearse roles, further giving form or shape to the individual and personal ideas and feelings they are naturally experiencing. Overall, this allows students to make sense out of their 'real' life problems.

2. Drama engages students in creative problem-solving and decision making

Deep experiences through drama guides and supports student's problem solving skills, while at the same time, works to encourage an increasing awareness in how to solve issues at hand.

3. Drama develops verbal and nonverbal communication

Through different characters, students share the opportunity to expand their problem solving skills both verbally and non-verbally, making room for a sense of creativity.

4. Drama can enhance students' psychological well-being

Under different characters, students can express their true feelings or sense of personality without fear of being judged or criticized. They can work on personal issue or solve personal problems while in character, which can simply help their overall well being.

5. Drama develops empathy and new perspectives

Taking on various roles in character allows students to use all senses and characteristics in order to understand the character, as well as, the scenario or story at hand.

6. Drama builds cooperation and develops other social skills

Working together as a group promotes, encourages and motivates cooperation. It is essential that each of our students feels accepted and works well with others, in order to create and build a safe environment for all to learn.

7. Drama increases concentration and comprehension through engagement

Students always learn best when they are engaged and interested, as well as, when they are actively involved. As students are strongly focused and concentrating, their overall understanding simply increases.

8. Drama helps students consider moral issues and develop values

Drama simply helps students further understand the importance of values they are already aware of, as well as, it guides them in developing and forming additional values.

9. Drama is an alternative way to assess by observing (ex. Externalization)

When teaching new lessons, we always depend on prior knowledge. We start with what students know, which further guides us with the next step to take in our teaching.

10. Drama is entertaining

Fun is learning, and learning is fun. If we remember this and try to incorporate fun in our teaching, our students will definitely enjoy the learning process.

11. Drama contributes to aesthetic development

Through drama, students learn about a number of things such as conflict and characters, which further allows them to deepen their sensory awareness.

12. Drama offers a learning avenue that enhances other areas of the curriculum

Drama can be used as a teaching and learning tool to help students make meaning of a number of skills they need to be a well rounded individual. **Activities :**

Drama can be the vehicle for the following applications:

- § Role play situations to model/observe new skills or behaviors.
- § Develop scenarios to introduce new concepts.
- § Dramatize a meeting between characters or historical figures.
- § Reenact a real event.
- § Dramatize a scene that might have happened in a story.
- § Improvise a scene that expresses the topic or theme.
- § Act out scenarios as a way to approach writing dialogue.
- § Create literary sketches.
- § Stimulate ideas for composing essays, poetry, or fiction.
- § Portray famous people.

Arts in education

Arts in education are an expanding field of educational research and practice informed by investigations into learning through arts experiences.

Some different types of art are animation, architecture, assemblage, calligraphy, ceramics, computer, Christian or religious, conceptual, artistic design, drawing, folk, graffiti, graphic, illuminated manuscript, illustration, mosaic, painting, performance, photography, sculpture, stained glass, tapestry, and video.

Benefits of Arts Education

1. The arts reach students who are not otherwise being reached.
2. The arts transform the environment for learning.
3. The arts provide learning opportunities for the adults in the lives of young people.
4. The arts connect learning experiences to the world of real work.
5. The arts reach students not normally reached, in ways and methods not normally used.
6. It changes the learning environment to one of discovery.
7. Students connect with each other better.
8. The arts provide challenges to students of all levels.
9. Students learn to become sustained, self-directed learners
10. The study of the fine arts positively impacts the learning of students of lower socioeconomic status as much or more than those of a higher socioeconomic status.

Activities :

1: Have students write a script

This activity can work with almost any subject. In language arts, have students adapt a short story into a script

2: Have students create a work of art

Ask students to draw or make a collage about a specific topic you are studying. The artwork could illustrate the theme of a novel, the culture and environment of a country for social studies, a genus or species in biology, or the ways chemistry affects our daily lives. For older students, political cartoons are another great way to incorporate art with current events or social studies content.

3: Have students write a song

For students who are less comfortable with music, tell them to choose an already created tune (like “Happy Birthday or “Jingle Bells”) and just write new lyrics. Then have students write a song about the lesson content.

4: Have students create a poster, brochure, or advertisement

These can be great alternative assessment products that also teach students about graphic design. There are lots of web tutorials available that you can use if your own art skills are a little rusty.

5: Use art, music, or dance as a writing prompt

Especially for older children who need writing practice, but get tired of the same old topics, this can be a great way to “sneak in” some arts. Play an instrumental piece of music, especially classical or jazz, and ask students to write about what the music makes them think about or feel.

6: Connect math and music

The connections between math and music are well documented, and many outstanding lesson plans exist to help students of all ages recognize the relationship between these two disciplines.

7: Teach art, music, dance, or theater history in your social studies lessons.

Changes in art, music, dance, or theater reflect societal changes. Take a class period or two to explore the connection between the arts and the content you’re studying.

8: Introduce students to artistic works that match your curriculum

This works especially well for language arts teachers. Mythology and famous stories throughout the centuries have inspired ballets, operas, symphonies, sculptures, and paintings. Incorporate those into your lessons.

In this way we can integrate music, drama, dance and different arts in education for our curriculum also. It is useful for increasing skills of students and for using creativity of students. As a teacher we must have to give inspiration to our students for developing their arts.