

Arts Are Hippi

CREATIVE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

THE ARTS AND CONSTRUCTIVIST LEARNING

There is a growing trend in elementary and early childhood education towards constructivist learning, a research paradigm which suggests knowledge is built experientially.

Teachers looking to utilize more constructivist teaching methods should look no further than music, theatre, dance, and visual art. Arts-based pedagogy is grounded in constructivism.

Students engaged in the arts build and construct, rather than simply record, knowledge.

Student-centered musical composition, improvisation, and finding similarities between musical pieces are examples of constructivist pedagogy found in music classrooms (Clever & Ballantyne, 2014; Della Pietra & Campbell, 1995).

Side coaching and scaffolding of embodied experiences are ways students construct knowledge and meaning during theatre activities (Frambaugh-Kritzer, Buelow, & Steele, 2015).

By “encouraging the students to explore different ways to express ideas through body movement, having them choose their ideas for creating a dance, and encouraging them to create their own dance movement,” dance instruction is constructivist-oriented (Chen, 2001, p. 374).

Leysath (2015), recognizes constructivist learning within the visual arts and explains, “The experience of working like an artist involves student-directed projects that are facilitated by the freedom students have to explore their environment” (p. 140).

In all art forms, the audience or viewers construct meaning or knowledge from what is seen, heard, and felt (Wiggins, 2015).



Catch Dr. Hippi's upcoming presentation at the Louisiana Arts Summit next month!

REFERENCES

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Check out Dr. Hipp's newest practitioner article:

<http://edprepmatters.net/2019/05/higher-education-equity-learning-experiences-via-multiple-pathways/>



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