



Learning & Teaching through Arts

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Abstract: In our modern-day society education and its methods have a significant role in every way we want to shape our future. We have numerous smart teaching methods now with thousands of educational videos posted daily online so that students can learn what they want at their own pace. So among those methods of education, 'Art Integrated Learning' is a teaching-learning method that is based on learning through the arts. It is a kind of educational method where instead of books and e-gadgets we use art as a medium to teach and learn and to understand concepts within any subject of the curriculum. It helps the learner to discover his creative side and invent new ways of building connections between different concepts through various art forms. The methods can be very much age-appropriate and they can be divided into every stage throughout all levels of schooling. These stage-wise objectives of learning through arts will help the students to respond with their imagination and emotional strengths and above all will allow them to learn at their own pace based on their own age, social context, and ability.

Keywords: Education, Globalization, Learning ability, Language, Collaborative

I. INTRODUCTION

A school's curriculum should treat the arts as equally important to academics. With globalization, cultural diversity, and economic uncertainty on the rise, a new type of education is required that provides students with open-mindedness, risk-taking, critical thinking, emotional intelligence, and engagement rather than just bookish knowledge. Art Integrated Learning (AIL) has an important role to play in that regard. Through its access points, it provides an equitable learning environment for all learners through the facilitation of experiential learning. In an arts-integrated learning environment, students engage in art activities and construct personal meaning through their learning.

II. IMPORTANCE of TEACHING and LEARNING THROUGH ARTS

Art-based learning aims to improve the student's cognitive (planning, remembering, and reflecting) as well as affective (social and emotional) and psychomotor (use of body and movement) abilities. Practical education in fine arts helps students to see what they look at, hear what they listen to, and feel what they touch. Through engagement in the fine arts, students can stretch their minds beyond the boundaries of the printed text or the rules of what can be proven.

As evidence of the benefits of Learning through the Arts, the following empirical studies have been cited:

- *Arts and disadvantaged groups* - The integration of the arts in an elementary school was associated with improved test scores in Mathematics and English. Students living in poverty benefitted from an integrated approach to education, according to a Washington-based researcher.
- *Arts create innovative processes* - Arts can unlock new pathways of learning for students. Many students in Japan found that integrating art with core subjects can be an effective teaching strategy.
- *Arts and cognitive processes* - Arts lead to dramatic changes in the brain such as strengthening the 'attention network'. Active in processing language, auditory perception, attention, etc.
- *Arts and Socio-emotional development* - Art relates to cognition, achievement, motivation, and self-concept in students. Arts when integrated with the learning process work splendidly as effective education. Because of this integration of thinking and feeling, creative arts therapies offer an opportunity to affect social/emotional and academic behavior positively.
- *Arts as Pedagogy* - Students in AIL classrooms are more engaged in the learning process and have more confidence and openness to handle new situations than their peers in non-AIL classrooms.



III. STAGE WISE OBJECTIVES of LEARNING and TEACHING THROUGH ART

Students can learn through the arts at all levels of education. In art integrated learning, children are encouraged to use their imagination and emotional strengths. Each child's needs vary with his or her age, social context, and abilities. Here are some stage-by-stage objectives for engaging children in art integrated learning:

A. Pre – Primary

A child at this stage is highly inquisitive and energetic. Children are attracted to creative activities such as drawing, painting, clay work, and music. Arts education should form the basis of all education at this stage. The purpose of participation in visual and performing arts is:

- Make learning fun and engaging.
- Encourage children to pay attention to their environment through keen observation and unrestricted exploration
- Promote sensitivity to the environment.
- Encourage emotional expression, communication, and creativity.
- Encourage children to express themselves freely and spontaneously.

B. Primary

For art education to become a teaching-learning tool, it needs to be integrated into all subjects. Art is an effective way to cultivate a child's curiosity, imagination, and sense of wonder. Their impact should be positive on general intellectual, social-emotional, motor, language, and literacy skills. The objectives of AIL at the number one stage are to assist children:

- Enjoy joy and eagerness to analyze.
- Discover ways to stay in inclusive surroundings.
- Discover ideas of mathematics and science in the world around them.
- Be aware of interdisciplinary connections.
- Discover and understand body movement and coordination.
- Expand expressive communication and vital thinking skills.
- Foster an inquisitive mindset in the direction of learning and knowledge.
- Understand and regulate their feelings.
- Create awareness of rich heritage and cultural diversity.

C. Upper Primary

During this stage, children are ready to understand more complex connections between concepts and their surroundings. AIL can help children build on simple concepts while also meaningfully connecting them to academic content. Children also improve their ability to work in groups and explore ideas collaboratively. The goals of AIL at the upper primary level are to assist children in the following ways:

- Examine concepts from distinct viewpoints.
- Develop an understanding of themes, subjects, and concepts, as well as be aware of interdisciplinary connections.
- Develop a pluralistic mindset and an appreciation for various options.
- Encourage collaboration and mutual respect.
- Improve your communication, language, and problem-solving abilities.
- Develop an awareness of environmental and societal issues
- Make art and use their artistic abilities in everyday activities
- Respect, care, empathy, and compassion are all-inclusive practices to learn.
- Encourage the development of social, emotional, and cognitive skills
- Understand and regulate their feelings
- Raising awareness of the rich cultural diversity and heritage

IV. ARTS TECHNOLOGY INTEGRATION

Arts integration evolves in lockstep with technological advancements. The challenge in integrating arts into today's technology-first education is effectively managing the sheer amount of information that technology makes available, not by putting production labs on school campuses or having access to the latest computer software. Students must learn to select relevant data, evaluate it, and



draw critical conclusions from it to make sense of it, answer questions, or create new ones. Technology also opens up new avenues of expression, whether through digital art or artificial intelligence, which, when combined with arts-technology integration, can foster the creativity and inquiry that arts education promotes.

V. UNESCO ARTS INTEGRATION PROGRAM

The United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) advocates the need for the integration of arts, culture, and creativity in all educational platforms. UNESCO Bangkok took the initiative of upholding research activities related to Arts Education. The very first international congress on art education was held in Seoul (Korea) in 2006.

VI. CONCLUSION

Art integrated learning offers several benefits to ensure learners have a better overall development. They can learn complex concepts efficiently and consequently perform better in exams and tests. If exposed to integrated learning at an early age, learners can focus better, acquire enhanced motor skills, and have other positive outcomes that promote their mental and physical growth. Due to the current economic recession, many schools across the U.S. see their arts programs cut off in favor of core curriculum subjects such as English, math, and science.

Research shows that arts education is crucial in children's learning process and development. In 2013 a congressional resolution sought to include "A" for Art in the STEM acronym, changing it to STEAM. Therefore, art integrated learning is a practical approach to learning-teaching. It offers a richer and more memorable learning experience to the students. Teachers have a significant role to play in the implementation of this learning technique. They should make it a part of their teaching methodology to bring the best out of the students. In this discussion, we focused on the importance of art as a component of a student's life and its application at every stage of their learning. We referenced not only why teaching through art is important, but also how students find it to be fun and relevant. We discussed how Art Integrated Learning is changing the lives of many students, and we hope our project will accelerate its progress.

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