MUSIC: TOOL FOR LEARNING

by:

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Bowman (1987) noted that Music is a versatile tool that can reduce anxiety, elicit memories, communicate feelings, develop rapport and intensify and create moods.

I firmly agree. Charged to the experience I had when I composed a song on names of natty sceneries in the Philippines to the tune of Ako ay May Lobo, a lesson on Araling Panlipunan during RBEC days. My learners had fun singing the song while learning the various names of natty sceneries and their location with in the country.

It was evident that music elicits memories. It can be used to augment our recollection of facts.

Learning easily takes place when content areas are integrated through music. It has been ages that lessons in Mathematics, Science, History, Language Arts were reinforced with song.

S. Ruth Harris, O.P., M.A.T. states that music is an enjoyable way to provide the base of prior knowledge that is critical to learning. It can be used to introduce and stimulate interest in subjects across discipline. When prior knowledge grows, interest and learning become easier and a positive cycle is established.

She even added that the use of music in the classroom is consistent with theories of multisensory learning.

It was confirmed by the Cognitive Psychologists what the educators have long known—that everyone has a multiple of different but similar enhancing awareness to learning. And music is one of them.
It was suggested by research that if we utilized more of our senses, we have deeper and wider degree of learning.

To nourish the learning experience of our learners, we teachers are encouraged to utilize tools that will promote progress. If music is used as a tool in teaching in different disciplines, learning will indeed take place.

References:

S. Ruth, Harris, O.D., M.A.T. www.SongsForTeaching.com

Bowman(1987)