WHY ENGAGE PUPILS TO MUSIC

by:
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Music has been part of the educational system since the ancient times. The Greeks made music as one of the “Quadrivium’ along with arithmetic, geometry and astronomy. According to Plato, music encourages harmony and order (Gojmerac, 2018). It must not be treated as a pleasurable activity but an art which transforms the individual. Scientific researchers proves that aside from being a powerful tool for improving special-temporal reasoning, music develops simultaneous analyses of both cognitive and emotional aspects of a child (Gojmerac, 2018). Hence, the importance of music is much more than we know.

In an article by Alegria (2017) she presents how teachers utilize music in every subject even without prior musical training. In the subject of History, music is easy for much songs were composed to present the cultural traditions and historical events of a certain group. Mathematics presents a challenge because it needs visual materials to manipulate while singing. Also, in Science, a teacher may add mnemonics to help students remember the systems of the body or the food chain. All a teacher needs are videos which may be downloaded from media platforms. When pupils are accustomed to this kind of learning, their thinking skills are developed and their love for learning is enhanced.

In a research by Governor (2011) on the experiences of students and teachers when learning science through songs, find that both have a high level of engagement in learning both on the personal and the situational level. When pupils were engaged in learning through music, not only that they will also have a high level of engagement but also high level of performance. Since a child knows little of “shyness”, himself or herself is not immediately barred of experimenting and developing his abilities. He or she may view
music as a game but unknowingly transforms his or her whole being. Music, like learning, is socio-cultural in nature and speaks to students in ways other strategies cannot (Governor, 2011).

Mabborang-Caban (2016) clearly saw the effects of songs in learning to students in the Philippines. Students who were taught with the use of songs have better attitude and have a higher achievement in their classes. The students were more attentive, more participative and delightful. Also, he find out that songs empowers students to acquire insight, knowledge and critical thinking skills.

These researches only shows that even in the different educational systems around the world, the significance of music in the educational development of a child is undeniable. As a teacher, one must be acquainted with this realities aside from the technological development of the current time. Teachers must not only integrate music as a listening activity but an active activity in the classroom where pupils are allowed to compose their own songs. Through this process, a child develops his abilities and the teacher may have a productive rest.

References:

