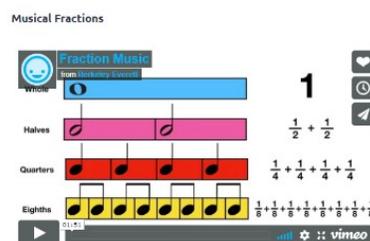


Shonda Baggette

Art Integration Paper

The lesson that I would like to use is a unit on fractions. I teach an enrichment second-grade math group. With this group, I incorporate Project Based Learning and STEM activities. Fractions are one of the hardest concepts for students to fully understand. I use as many resources, manipulatives, and visuals as possible and there are still some students that struggle. I'm hoping by integrating Arts; it will help the students grasp the understanding of fractions.

The art form that I would like to integrate into a lesson I teach is Musical Composition. I currently use Visual and Media Arts in my fraction unit. I got this idea from Math Visuals by Berkeley Everett. This is called Musical Fractions, and this is the link. You may have to scroll down the page to see



the visual. <https://mathvisuals.wordpress.com/fractions/> When I saw and listened to this I thought it was so cool. When students compare equivalent fractions to the visual, hear the notes and connect $\frac{1}{2}$, $\frac{1}{4}$, $\frac{1}{8}$, and one whole notes, it will significantly enhance the lesson.

In my opinion, integrating the arts in the classroom is very beneficial. It increases student engagement, enthusiasm, and research shows that it can improve student achievement. For example, I may have a student that struggles in math but do well in music. By relating music with math, they

may make a connection with the number of beats, patterns, and rhythms and it would be great confidence and motivational experience for the student. This applies to other art forms as well. Students who are in drama could integrate this skill to increase their writing abilities. Integrating arts into the classroom with other core subjects is an inexpensive and engaging strategy the teacher can utilize to enhance student understanding. I think it's the teacher's responsibility to learn their student's talents and if they enjoy the arts, help the student as much as possible to use this skill to aid in student learning.

Teachers can create interdisciplinary lessons by combining any of the arts to any subject or content area in the daily curriculum. For example, students can act out historical events and practice reading fluency and comprehension in readers theatre. They can create the setting of the event in graphic design. They can discuss the main character's point of view and key details of the historical event. Anytime I've integrated art into other subjects the students almost look at it like it's playing. I can't think of a better way to increase student knowledge. I know from experience, these were the lessons that made a significant impact on me, and I still remember them as an adult.

