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Art Integration Paper

SCED 550 The Arts in STEM: Advancing Meaningful Integration

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**Art Form:**

The focus for this art integration paper is *Script Writing*. Script writing is a creative way for students to process new learning as well as to have opportunities to collaborate with others. Students take the content that they have learned and process it creatively into a written format to share learning with others. The script should demonstrate student learning by creatively presenting information. The script can then be read aloud and/or performed for others to share the content.

I have chosen script writing to integrate art standards into a life science lesson on ecological levels of organization. I believe that script writing will be a productive way for students to internalize and express their learning of ecological concept. Due to the listing nature of the concept, and the requirements of ordering the components, writing a script would be a more-than-adequate method. Students should be able to plan out their script in a storyboard or outline way to aid them with maintaining order in their representation of the levels of organization.

**Lesson Enhancement:**

Script writing can enhance the current employed lesson covering the levels of organization. Presently, the lesson includes an informative Amoeba Sisters video, applicable

vocabulary with definitions, a brief lecture, and a modelled flip book activity. This lesson is quick despite the importance of the content in building a foundation for thirty-eight percent of the state standards for seventh grade life science. This lesson enhancement activity would be an addition to the already established lesson plan. I believe that this will be an outstanding way to further solidify learning for the students. Additionally, a script writing activity will provide students with a creative way to express their learning to both the teacher and to other students. Recalling students back to the content presented with their scripts will aid in further lessons as the class proceeds through the ecology content.

### **Interdisciplinary Context:**

Integrating the arts into every classroom provides a way to easily bridge content across the varying core areas of science, social studies, reading, and math. Students experience more emersion into the content when they make contact with it multiple times per day. In the case of the above-mentioned script writing activity, a bridge can easily be formed between science and reading. In the seventh-grade reading curriculum, students learn about plays and they practice writing scripts and performing brief scenes. With a little preparation and planning between the departments, this can be times to coincide with the ecology unit's composition of a script explaining the levels of organization.

In other lessons, art can bridge all core subjects: English, math, social studies, and science. As an example, when we study diseases in science we have, in the past, selected yellow fever as a cornerstone of this unit. During English class, students read the historical fiction novel, *Fever*. In math class, they track the morbidity of the disease and practice graphing. In social studies class students learn about the formation of our country that coincides with the

yellow fever outbreak of 1793, Philadelphia. Students are immersed in the content in every class for a given amount of time. A natural extension would be to have students express their learning in one of the many ways for art integration. Perhaps they want to write another script or create a puppet, or draw a picture, or choreograph a dance. Integrated, collaborative efforts seem to be the activities that students remember years later, after they have left the seventh grade. The students that come back to visit always seem to ask me if the students have done the *Fever* yet. Anything that can stir enough excitement in a student to lead them to remember an activity years later is something worth mentioning and repeating.

Addendum to the art integration paper:

I found this great website that has strategies for group script writing. Although this is not one that is geared towards science, it does have step-by-step plans for teaching students *how* to write scripts collaboratively with their peers.

<https://educationcloset.com/2016/11/01/strategies-group-script-writing-address-4cs/>