Music Matters
Music, brain development and teaching strategies to make music matter

Presented by Jill Brider
How can the links between positive musical experiences and brain development be used to create effective teaching strategies that increase musical experiences in Early Childhood Settings?
The Amazing Brain

- 4 brains
- 2 sides
- 1 bridge
- 100 billion neurons
- 4 brainwaves
**Brain Waves**

- **Beta (β)**: 13+ cps
  - Mind and body active and busy
  - Short-term memory being used

- **Alpha (α)**: 8-12 cps
  - Mind and body calm and relaxed
  - Long-term memory activated
  - Learning is easy and rapid

- **Theta (θ)**: 4-7 cps
  - A state of deep relaxation
  - High creativity and insight
  - Subconscious mind accessible

- **Delta (δ)**: 0.5-3 cps
  - Sleeping
  - Minimum brain activity
Music and the brain

Playing and listening to music works several areas of the brain.

- **Corpus callosum**: Connects both sides of the brain.
- **Sensory cortex**: Controls tactile feedback while playing instruments or dancing.
- **Motor cortex**: Involved in movement while dancing or playing an instrument.
- **Auditory cortex**: Listens to sounds; perceives and analyzes tones.
- **Prefrontal cortex**: Controls behavior, expression and decision-making.
- **Hippocampus**: Involved in music memories, experiences and context.
- **Nucleus accumbens and amygdala**: Involved with emotional reactions to music.
- **Visual cortex**: Involved in reading music or looking at your own dance moves.
- **Cerebellum**: Involved in movement while dancing or playing an instrument, as well as emotional reactions.

SOURCE: Music for Young Children

DESERET NEWS GRAPHIC
Brain Beats

- Nothing activates as many areas of the brain as music
- Music and rhythm are essential for the developing brain
- Quality musical experiences provide enjoyment and growth
- Free play and planned musical experiences are beneficial
- Learning styles and teaching strategies can be enhanced by music
Tuneful Teaching

- Explaining
- Commentating
- Orchestrating
- Modelling
Explaining

As essential as a paint brush is to an artist, the art of explaining is an important part of the teachers equipment.

- Teachers learn to discuss the learning process itself
- Making learning explicit
Commentating

As an artist can step back to critique their work, a teacher can commentate on the learners learning and achievement.

- Language used to comment on the learners exploring the environment
- Interactions between teacher and learner conveying powerful messages
Orchestrating

As an artist prepares and organises their workspace for creativity and productivity, so a teacher must be aware of the spaces and resources.

- Organising the environment to encourage interaction
- Selecting resources which can be used for individual or groups
Modelling

If an artist sees a better way to portray what their mind eye sees, they adjust the colour, texture to reflect this. They are never afraid of painting over something to make it better.

- Showing what it means to being a good learner
- Be aware of attitudes, values and interests towards the resources and environment
Making Music Happen

- Listening
- Playing
- Singing
- Confidence
- Consistency
Greatest Hits

- I’ve got rhythm
- What's so good about rhyme
- Dance like nobody’s watching
- Sing a song
- 10 Ukuleles
- Play it again Sam
- Knowing me knowing you
Music Reflections

* Required

COMMENT *
What happened? Describe the musical experience/interaction

CONSIDER *
What teaching strategies did you use?
- EXPLAINING - Informing
- EXPLAINING - Reminding
- EXPLAINING - Discussing
- EXPLAINING - Training
- COMMENTATING - Nudging
- COMMENTATING - Replying
- ORCHESTRATING - Selecting
- ORCHESTRATING - Framing
- ORCHESTRATING - Arranging
- MODELLING - Reacting
- MODELLING - Learning aloud
- MODELLING - Demonstrating

CONSIDER
Any comments to add about how you used the strategy/strategies?

CONTEMPLATE *
What worked well? What might you do differently next time? How can you extend the learning?

CONCLUDE
Any other thoughts, ideas or questions you might have?

Submit

Never submit passwords through Google Forms.


