

Creative and Media Arts Pedagogies



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1. Introduction of arts education in early childhood settings

Creative arts are referred to as activities that work by actively engaging children through visual arts, drama, music, storytelling, clay work, photography, painting, dance and movements by using their imaginations. These are very important as they engage the children's using all domains like emotional, cognitive, social, physical, and language (Gibson, 2020). These type of activities helps in fostering divergent thinking and open-ended which works without focusing on the product. It is a type of language which allows children to only express themselves but also to develop their emotions and ideas. The artistic activities play a very important role in children's growth with their soul-nurturing as they are chock-full of processes. When a child is allowed to be exposed to any type of artistic activity, then its brain got stimulated by the movements, sizes, colours, and sounds. These types of neutral connections exercised and strengthen their brains. This process of introducing arts in the life of children that are under three years of age gives greater benefit as their brains at this stage are maturing and are highly sensitive to exterior stimuli (Faber, 2017). These activities foster the children's intellectual development with the following benefits: stimulating the brain on both sides, increasing their concentration and attention, enhancing memory capacity, developing children's reading skills, and helping them to perform well in science and math. These introduce them to new concepts and vocabularies, help in acquiring and improving their social skills, and promote their self-esteem. They learn to work in groups and help them to prompt themselves. These activities include the following:

1.1. Dance and movement

Dancing is rhythmic body movement usually within space following background music which is aimed at expressing the emotion or idea, taking pleasure or releasing energy. The creative movements deal with the stimulation of our three senses out of five which include hearing, sight, and touch. When children move with music beat, they hone their senses more finely and begin learning how their bodies could coherence with stimuli across them.

1.2. Visual arts

These are the type of art forms that create such sort of work that is visual in natural surroundings. These types of creative works include printmaking, architecture, painting, ceramics, playing with clay, photography, sculpture making, crafts, drawing, film and video making. Visual arts help a child to practice and learn skills like root and impact, patterning etc. These help them to develop critical thinking abilities when they thought of taking a picture or metal plan before or during following and creating any visual art activity.

1. Drama and Storytelling

It is the simplest but most compelling art form of activity that requires creative imagination. The making of films, telling the stories through acts or by simply commination, these all forms of creative art activities that help the children to learn how they could creatively and effectively communicate using new auditory and visual communication technologies by putting their creative imaginations into them (Brown, 2017).

2. The rationale for implementing arts

Implementing the media and creative arts in early childhood helps them to develop their language skills, motor skills, social skills, inventiveness, risk-taking and decision-making skills. All types of visual arts help the children to colour, balance, perspective, layout and teach them all the techniques which are necessary for academic work presentation in future. These types of activities help them to work on their building personality traits too. When they continuously engage in such types of artistic activities, they also learn to develop consistency and persistency in their daily work. Their persistent try to improve in artistic work stimulate their imagination and creativity in them. Practising again and again also helps them to learn the importance of time and meeting goals (Roy, 2019). It helps them to get more awareness about their surrounding culture which could be depicted in their artwork. We mostly believe that art is important for children because we found the children deeply engaged in it while doing artistic activities. But it is more

than our thinking which is factual information beyond our thoughts. The creation of art by a child through putting his insightful imagination into it expand his creative ability to interact with the world surrounding him. It provides him with a new skill set for communication and self-expression. This process not only helps the child to develop his brain right side but also cultivates benefiting important skills for his development. It seems like a way of games and fun, but it is a learning process by playing and exploring these artistic activities. Art would give children useful important life skills to the child, and they would start possessing the following important developmental skills in him (Brown E. D., 2020).

2.1. Problem-Solving Skills

When a child is playing with artistic activities like painting, he is exploring different kinds of his imagination from his mind to the paper. These are his testing possibilities which are going to help him in working with future challenges. It is like the scientist and researcher who experiments and explores different ways of finding solutions. This type of activity helps them to make their assessments. When they draw something on paper, they think again and again while drawing whether it is looking good, or I should erase it to try making it again. He also thought about which colour I should add to this drawing, orange or green which makes this drawing a good in looking. This process helps them to find that one problem may have many answers and he could follow different directions and rules for it. His brain engages in this work and makes him learn the "why" and "how" processes (Ulger, 2018). Each minor activity like handling art materials while performing art help them in solving challenges.

2.2. Communication Skills

When a child draws something on paper, style a portrait through painting, or make a sculpture, he is visually communicating his ideas in this whole process. These kinds of activities help them to release their emotions on paper like feelings of joy, and

sadness when someone like their loved one left them or they miss someone by drawing incoming thoughts in their mind. It helps them to visually communicate their feelings when they are not at this stage that they could verbally communicate their inner thoughts and emotions. If they do not engage in such types of artistic activities, then there are more chances that their feelings remain unexpressed which could impact their early childhood life and ultimately future one too.

2.3. Fine-Motor Skills

These types of skills help a child to develop controlling and holding materials when they engage in playing with artistic stuff. These types of activities include holding a crayon colour or a paintbrush for making desired marks on paper, turning a book page, and using scissors with proper control to snip it into some definite shape, these activities help them to develop their fine motor skills.

2.4. Social and Creativity Skills

When a child works in groups while performing an artwork, then he develops many valuable social skills through it. He learns to do teamwork, shares stuff with each other and practice appreciating other efforts. He also learns to express himself uniquely which motivates him to do better work for getting distinctiveness. This all process develops great social skills in that how he could be adapted well to his surroundings and could be more social while working with other people in future. This type of activity also develops friendships and bonding with his colleagues which is also a valuable social skill.

3. Discussion of current arts implementation pedagogies and practices

As an art teacher, he needs to advocate the importance of arts in education and also he should prioritize art creativity in his classroom. Art teacher needs to design a creative art course material and curriculum for their students, especially for early age children. It is included the responsibility of an ideal art teacher that makes aware of his students about how they could express themselves using art. It is the exciting classroom practice provided by the art teacher which encourages the children to daily attempt and actively participates in class (Douglas, 2018). There are different types of artistic activities that have been used for teaching in early childhood settings. Some of the current art pedagogies and teachings which have been implemented in early childhood settings are as follows:

3.1. Snip-Scissor Cutting

Cutting paper activity is a type of fun for children. When they were allowed to snip paper pieces using paper and then paste these paper pieces over the contrasting paper, they loved it. They also learn holding scissors and how to use them through this activity.

3.2. Picture puzzle

The children are made to collect picture pieces together and make one picture. In this activity, they use hand-eye imagination while making their puzzle.

3.3. Blessings Box

In this activity, students are made to paint a box for show thanksgiving in which they carry their painted rocks and other things which they love. This activity gives them an idea of thankfulness to others.

3.4. Colourful handprints

This early childhood teaching pedagogy enables students to dip their hands in different colours and then print their hand colours on paper. The students were also made to rub their

painted hands with each other in this artistic activity to know what colour they gain like showing them after rubbing hands with yellow and red colours make orange.

3.5. Colour Box Sculpture

In this early childhood art activity, students are allowed to paint the boxes by drawing designs, and patterns and mixing secondary colours on them, and then these boxes are taped closed. Finally, all students single large sculptures using all these boxes. This artistic pedagogy introduces the students to sculpture and 3D art.

3.6. Painting to music

In this activity, children are made to run around the table which possesses paper over it and hold a paintbrush in their hands. They move with their paintbrush to the beat of background music. They are allowed to stop when the music stops.

4. Critically articulate your position

I believe that current creative and media arts early childhood education has been improved as compared to the past. There were only a few artistic activities that mostly involve children at home, but now special training schools have been developed for this purpose. Nowadays, special art classes based on different subjects have also been introduced in current teaching practices. It has also been observed that there are more creative strategies have been implemented in current early childhood education. These creative strategies include art teaching is not only for purpose of fun but also for students to start developing important life lessons from it. As the activity of making blessings box is one of them in which students not only have fun painting their boxes but also learn to be thankful for the things they love. There is only one thing that should be improved more in art teaching and that is evaluation criteria. All students could never be good at making drawings and paintings, that is why they should always be encouraged whatever they make. There should be positive and happy evaluations of learning classroom practices that should be part of current early childhood creative arts and media arts education.

5. Conclusion and future

The implementation of creative arts and media arts education in early childhood is not only a fun part but also a useful learning life skill experience for children. Artistic activities for children at a very early age help them to grow and stimulate many skills in them which proved to be very helpful in future for them. These skills include communication, fine motor skills, problem-solving skills, and the development of creativity and emotional skills in them. As the world is progressing, it has been expected that current creative arts pedagogies would be evolved, and new strategies would be involved in them. There would be more specialized training centres and art classes in future for students, especially for early age children.

6. References

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