

CREATIVITY IN THE CLASSROOM

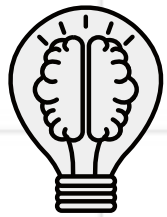


Rationale

Both Bloom's Taxonomy and Webb's DOK place **creativity** at the **highest levels of cognition**. However, the normalization of Taylor's model of scientific management and factory style education has lead to what Sir Ken Robinson calls "the Death Valley of Education" (Au, 2008, p.21; Robinson, 2013). **Essentially, our classroom models do not typically encourage creativity.**

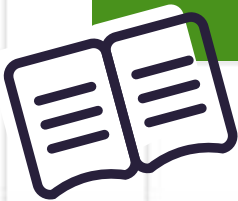
Students Today. . .

A recent study found students are less engaged, do not feel challenged, and revealed a widening achievement gap between college bound students and their peers (Turner, 2024).



What can we do?

Bring creative teaching and teaching for creativity into the classroom (Jeffrey & Craft, 2004).



How do I incorporate Creativity?

There are lots of ways to bring creativity into the classroom. **Here are a few options to consider:**

- **incorporate drama**
 - students can create skits and perform them
- **incorporate poetry**
 - utilize either structured or free verse to have students consider the most important concepts
- **Use imagery**
 - art, photography, and digital creations can help students conceptualize topics in different ways
- **Practice creative reflection**
 - we know reflection is a powerful tool; utilize drawings, stories, and journals to give students space to understand their learning

(McIntosh & Warren, 2013)

Samples

Here are some creative examples I have used in my classroom: Zines, Creative Writing, Concept Map



Tips

- Do not compromise **effective practices** for a **creative gimmick**
 - **Decide:** what are the learning outcomes? What should students know or be able to do?
 - **Then:** brainstorm how students can demonstrate this knowledge in an effective way
- Consider:
 - grading creative projects can seem a little daunting. with these creative projects, do you need to grade them in a “traditional” way, or can you use another marker (participation, reflection, student-grading) to give points or determine learning?



**“Human life is inherently creative.
It's why we all have different résumés.
We create our lives,
and we can recreate them as we go
through them.
It's the common currency of being a
human being” (Robinson, 2013).**



References

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