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ENHANCING PROFESSIONAL CAPACITIES

(A Peer-reviewed Research Papers of
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Ruben College of Education
Thadikkarankonam,
Kanniyakumari District, Tamil Nadu

in co-ordination with



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Kanniyakumari Academy of Arts and Sciences
(A Multi-Disciplinary Researchers' Forum)

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DRAMA AND ARTS IN EDUCATION

*C. SHEEBA RANI AND **K.GIREESH KUMAR

**M.Ed. Student*

***Asst.Professor, N.V.K.S.D College of Education, Attoor.*

ABSTRACT:

The paper entitled with "Drama and Arts in Education" is potential in enhancing the professional capacities (EPC) of a teacher educator and they are the pivot of not only training the students but in acquainting them with a great degree of awareness of the needs of the younger generation. Thus, by transforming regular curricular material into effective and transformative Drama and Arts work, begin practicing teaching methodologies, and explore ways of generating empathy/ awareness towards others. Our ultimate aim is to provide students with a well-rounded education, which means drama and arts will be a strong focus for future. Drama and arts not only engage with the creative side of the brain, but also provides an ideal balance in student's pattern of study. It is easy for children to become swamped in a sea of theory, in which the subjects that offer practical learning are essential. Participation in drama and arts provides the teacher with another way to assess the students. Through dramatic play, students reveal how they organize ideas, solve problems, work in a group, deal with conflict, and use their imagination. Drama and arts also has many practical classroom applications for planning and transacting curricular material. Thus Drama and Arts create a controlled and non- threatening, environment in the educational set-up.

Key words: Transformative, improvisation, Skills.

Introduction:

Drama and arts develop a specialized knowledge of the fields of drama and arts in education, the ability for sustained engagement

with communities of learning as well as a working knowledge of school systems. Students learn to transform regular curricular material into effective and transformative drama work, begin practicing teaching methodologies, and explore ways of generating empathy/ awareness towards others. These approaches are informed by the pursuit of social justice and awareness of contemporary social issues (eg. bullying). As well as engagement with many of the basis of theatre creation and production, students learn to effectively write both reflective and critical responses about their experience as well as about the wider field of study. Drama and arts serve to generate a rich array of reciprocal benefits for both students and our community. Studying the arts has helped our students to improve their overall academic results. Our ultimate aim is to provide students with a well-rounded education, which means drama and arts will be a strong focus for future.

Goals

1. Language skill : students will listen and read for details, and improve comprehensibility in speaking and writing

Objectives

- I. Students can read drama scripts in English
 - II. improve listening comprehension of different types of spoken texts- for main ideas, details an speakers attitudes and emotions
 - III. Speak clearly enough (pronunciation, stress, intonation) to be understood by classmates and audience.
 - IV. Formulate, express and defend individual ideas and opinions in an improvisation.
2. Critical thinking skills: students will learn how to think critically in order in' to successfully participate in dramatic impromptu improvisation.

Objectives:

- I. Acquire thinking skills to make critical and rational judgments
- II. Interpret input and understand inferences in a dramatic script or improvisation.

3. Affective factors: students will learn how to manage affective factors that can inhibit or enhance their English language proficiency

Objective:

- I. Positive attitude towards constructive ideas and values that is transmitted and dramatized in oral and written forms.
 - II. Develop confidence in their ability to speak English spontaneously
4. Performance: students will learn how to perform in English

Objective:

- I. Students will be able to perform in front of an audience in a complex culminating task.
 - II. Students will be able to manipulate body movements and facial expressions to convey appropriate emotion and meaning in dramatizations.
5. Communicative: students will develop communicative skills in English

Objective:

Participate in pair and group dramatization on a variety of topics
Formulate, express and defend individual ideas and opinions when working on dramatic production

6. Artistic skills: Arts integrated learning is a way to teach artistic skills in conjunction with academic material

Objectives:

- I. This approach values the process and experimental learning as much as creation of art objects.
- II. It provides a calming environment that produces a sense of peace and serenity.

Importance of drama and performing arts in education:

Drama and arts not only engage with the creative side of the brain, it also provides an ideal balance in student's pattern of study. It

is easy for children to become swamped in a sea of theory, which is why subjects that offer practical learning are essential.

1. Students gain important life skills as they learn the value of critical feedback, both positive and constructive.
2. Children have the opportunity to celebrate the richness and depth of human expression in all of its forms. Through creative expression in all of its forms. Through creative expression students learn to comprehend our world better and are therefore better equipped to navigate the challenges they might be faced with upon graduating from secondary schooling.
3. Drama and arts allow an avenue to develop cognitive abilities that complement study in other disciplines. **For example:** drama students learn to approach situations in an array of different manners which can help to develop creative thinking and new study techniques. Further it builds confidence which benefits public speaking opportunities. The talent that students discover through the arts can form habits which transcend all areas of study.
4. Communication between the peers is accelerated as students are exposed to group activities. This experience also provides opportunity for students to display cultural leadership qualities.
5. Some students find their voice while studying the arts. They may discover they are natural problem solvers or leaders. Creative expression is great way to build self-confidence and can be particularly beneficial for introverted and reserved children.
6. The arts can also be a source of solitude- a place where a child is able to shut out their surrounds and immerse themselves in a creative environment. This process allows the imagination to thrive, aiding internal exploration. It is a natural precursor to a well-developed sense of self.
7. The arts can act as an agent through which a variety of emotions can be learned, rehearsed and practiced adolescents can find it

difficult to express their emotions and so the arts provides a great outlet for children to explore a wide range of feelings including delight, anger and unhappiness. This experience can define a child's growing sense of independence and interdependence.

Educational Objectives:

The benefits of using creative play as a teaching methodology coincide with the established goals of education. These includes,

- Developing the imagination and creativity
- Fostering critical thinking and problem solving skills
- Exploring and evaluating ideas
- Discovering positive ways of dealing with conflict
- Expressing feelings and interpreting the feelings of others
- Enhancing communication skills
- child-like sensibility alive
- Improving literacy skills

Participation in drama and arts provides the teacher with another way to assess the student. Through dramatic play, students reveal how they organize ideas, solve problems, work in a group, deal with conflict, and use their imagination. Observing how students dramatize an event offers valuable insight into how they perceive, interpret, understand, and analyze the material at the core of the lesson.

Classroom Application:

Drama and arts has many practical classroom applications for teaching curricular material. Important concepts, ideas, events, and people can be dramatized through improvisation, pantomime, and playwriting to stimulate interest, convey knowledge, gain comprehension, and improve retention.

- Role play situation to model/observe new skills or behaviors.
- Develop scenarios to introduce new concepts.
- Dramatize a meeting between characters or historical figures.

- Reenact a real event or a scene that might have happened in a story
- Create literacy sketches.
- Stimulate ideas for composing essays, poetry or fiction
- Portray famous people

Conclusion:

Thus it creates a controlled or non-threatening environment. In other words it provides another non-traditional opportunity for students to get to learn and to demonstrate learning. Drama and arts helps students to get in touch with their creativity and spontaneity as well as to develop confidence in the expression of their ideas. Finally it teaches self-discipline, acceptance of and positive response to criticism, and cooperation with others.