



Connecting Arts with School Curriculum is an innovative education action research and development project for teachers and artists living in regional and remote Queensland. The project, designed especially for primary and middle schools, explores the values and benefits of teacher and artist collaboration in addressing arts and non arts curriculum in the classroom.

Stage 1 of the project began in 2014 with a series of professional collaboration workshops for teachers in regional Queensland. From these workshops six pilot collaboration lessons were selected for further development and implementation in the classroom. This is a summary of one of those classroom sessions, presented as a case study.

SCHOOL	Belgian Gardens State School	TEACHER	Leigh Turner
LOCATION	Townsville	ARTIST	MJ Ryan Bennett
YEAR LEVEL	6/7	LESSON NAME	Phases of the Moon and Seasons

LESSON IDEA

Pilot lesson (science/art) to be facilitated to a composite grade 6/7 class.

- Lesson will be held in the science lab, to use the space and equipment available.
- Students had completed a unit on Moon patterns and these were used as the foundation for the lesson. The next unit of study was 'seasons'; we aimed to link this into the pilot lesson.
- Using a light source Students will compose patterns to create a collaborative piece of art

The Artist composed the lesson plan and the Teacher then viewed this and made changes/additions for further information.

Prior Learning

The class had recently been looking at lunar cycles, tides and how the moon orbits the earth.

CURRICULUM LINKAGES

General Capabilities: Literacy, Numeracy, ICT, Creative/Critical thinking

Science: Understanding Phases of the Moon and Seasons

Visual Arts: Explore ideas, experiences, observations and imagination to create visual artworks and design

APPROACH AND SEQUENCE OF LESSON

Collaborative PPT showing references to the moon in artwork and phases of the moon

1. Students work in groups, lesson held in the science lab
2. Setting up a light source so, students could demonstrate various lunar patterns
3. Using torches and foam balls cast shadows, the cast shadows are representative of the phases of the moon

4. Students mark the patterns with pencil onto large card
5. Students discuss and select from mixed media to create a collaborative piece of art on the card

Resource requirements

Possible school resources

- Powerpoint content prepared by Artist with historical and contemporary references to the moon in Art.
- Powerpoint content prepared by Teacher Science content and descriptors of the phases of the moon
- Light source such as a torch
- Pencil 2B or 4B
- Scissors

Art materials from School Art Supplies including: pasteboard, strawboard, polystyrene shapes, glue, hessian, assorted buttons, seagrass, sequins, matt squares, silver paint, student acrylic paint assorted colours

OUTCOME

- Setting up a light source so, students could demonstrate various lunar patterns, this they have covered in a previous lesson.
 - Students will use these patterns to create a collaborative piece of art.
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COMMENTS

Teacher: I'm just really glad that I was in this project because it has made me sort of reassess. I thought that I was very inquisitive of art in what I do anyway and I just really see the value in bringing art into the curriculum.

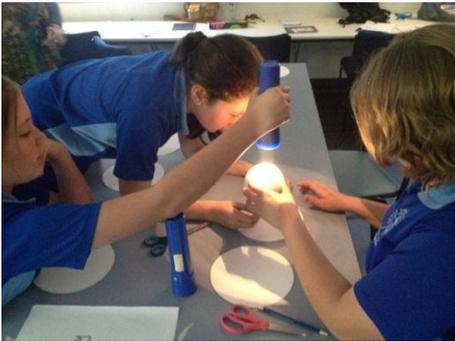
Artist: I think it simply makes sense to combine curriculum studies; students get more of a holistic approach to learning and it helps them to learn on more than one level, which for some students is a must, otherwise they miss out on the underlying intricacies and potentially never get the big picture.

Students: What I learned about was like, how you can turn art into different ways of learning, so, what we did today with the moon phases, and we could have turned art into English lessons if it was possible, which it probably is. So we can, instead of having like normal science lessons we can find out, like make textures and yeah, learn about art as well as learning about science at the same time.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- Documentation through photography (photo permission forms);
 - Feedback/Evaluation forms.
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PHOTOGRAPHS



Students work together with a light source to capture cast shadows as phases of the moon.



Students Collaborate with the Artist to design a layout for their artwork.



Gathering materials using colour references to represent the seasons.



Laying out the materials



The Artists helps to add a painted background to the image.



Many hands working together to create the finished artwork.