

Teaching Philosophy_ Madeleine Dietrich

When I was in grade school the art room was always a place full of excitement and creativity. Going through my education the art room continued to be a happy place in my world where I felt welcomed. These aspects were ones that pushed me to become an art educator so I would be able to make a place for students to be creative and excited.

Walking into my classroom I want students to walk in with a smile, excitement, and full of creativity. The most important thing within my classroom is a **supportive environment** for all students. This environment looks like building rapport with all my students, having a safe environment with materials, making independent choices, and have supportive feedback. One way I envision myself building rapport with students is by learning their names within the first few weeks of school. Another way I can make students feel more comfortable is by adding choice within their projects. By adding **choice** into student projects, they will be able to make a connection to the artwork and to have self-expression within their own piece of art. This can be by students choosing the actual medium or one of the elements of art to change. Students can also have opportunities to choose the subject of their piece. I think choice within the art room is super important because it inspires students to be creative and to experiment with their art. Along with encouraging students to be creative, having choice within their art can encourage **problem solving** not only within art but encouraging choice and problem solving can spread to other classes.

With all projects it is important that students have **constructive feedback**. Students can reflect upon the work they have done and talk about it in a positive way, seeing what they can do to improve and setting goals for themselves with the next project. Reflecting on the art students have made includes having artist statements, class critiques, and having one on one conversations with students to talk about their artwork. The end goal in my classroom is for students to have confidence that their artwork is good, well made, and something they can be proud of. Creating a classroom full of creativity for students to thrive and a safe environment where they feel comfortable experimenting with all art mediums and all techniques to obtain the best results.

I believe all students are unique and have their own special skills, so it is important to help all students succeed within my class. This includes **supporting students** when creating projects. This can be done by hand over hand, giving extra guidance, and several other supports. My goal is to create opportunities for all students to succeed within my class. Supporting students is important and this includes accommodating for different types of learning; I will be referencing **Gardner's theory of multiple intelligence** to support each student's learning. It is also important to use **Art Integration** in my projects to help kids learn more about what they are learning in the core classes they have day to day. Arts integration is also important and can help students to further their knowledge and make a more meaningful connection. For example, using standards from fifth grade and communicating with other teachers to see what is lacking to help boost the student's connection to subjects like science and social studies. Collaborating with other teachers to help students learn more about specific topics.

Overall, my class will be a place of creativity, exploration, support, learning, and diversity. It is important to me to keep my room a positive learning environment that supports not only my teaching but also my students' success.