

Praxis Paper

“Learning centers (stations) are places in a classroom where students can engage themselves in hand-on experience in using new skills” (Herrel & Jordan, 2006). According to our understanding, this autonomous approach offers students the opportunity to be more independent as a group and interact with fellow students with freedom to realize their learning center goals.

For example, this first poetry station caters for the visual elements of the poem. Inspired by the pedagogical tool video, the students will draw mini pictures of scenes or events bringing out the visuospatial elements to create an overall comprehension of the poem. Meanwhile, drawing is one of the most effective hands-on experiences that can be practiced in a class room setting. “These kinds of hands-on experiences can help students to lower inhibitions, exposing them to academic language, and enhancing their academic performance” (Freeman & Freeman, 2003; Bunch et al., 2005; Martin & Green, 2012).

The second station is focusing on the literary devices in poetry, since “For reading, these processes include using knowledge of sound–symbol relationships (graphophonics), word order and grammar (syntax), and meaning (semantics) to predict and confirm meaning, as well as using background knowledge about the text’s topic and structure along with linguistic knowledge and reading strategies to make an interpretation (Peregoy & Boyle, 2016). Other than the more subjective approach to a poem, there are more solid instruments, the literary devices, to use.

Poetry stations with a focus on social justice allow students to use their social and cultural knowledge to design and create their own meaning in a variety of modes. As Amir Michalovich (2021) writes in “‘You’re the boss, yo!’”: Role-Play in Digital Multimodal Composition of Newcomer Youth”, “a multiliteracies approach to literacy highlights that 21st century learners should be able to harness [...] their own diverse social and cultural knowledge, in order to

become agentive, creative, and critical designers. Students are required to think critically about social topics with which they are familiar while also using their agency to express themselves through writing. This leads them to become creators of meaning in different modes and better equipped to understand, interact with, and influence the world around them.

References:

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