CREATIVE USE OF MUSIC IN TEACHING AND LEARNING PROCESS: FOR BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF CONTENT

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Introduction:

"Music is the electrical soil in which the spirit lives, thinks and invents."

-Ludwing Van Beethoven

(Ludwing was a German Composer and pianist, famous in western art, music and influential of all composes)

We all know how greatly music affects our feeling and energy levels! Without even thinking about it, we use music to create desired moods—to make us happy, to enjoy movement and dance, to energize, to bring back powerful memories, to help us relax and focus. Music is a powerful tool for our personal expression within our daily lives—it helps “set the scene” for many important experiences.

Benefits of Music in daily life:

1. Music makes you feel happy and more eager to do what you need to do.
2. Music energizes you when you first wake up or feel tired.
3. Music can calm and soothe you and your family members.
4. Sometimes music help you focus on task at hand.
5. Music can inspire you, motivate you, and build your enthusiasm.
6. Music helps to get things done more quickly and easily.
7. Music stimulates your creativity.
8. Music help you relax and reflect on issues and ideas.
9. Music help you connect to and cooperate with others.
10. Music plays for fun also.
Research supports what we know from personal experience, music greatly affects and enhances our learning and living!

“Take music bath once or twice a week for music is to the soul what water is to the body.”
- Oliver Wendall Holmes

(Oliver was a poet from Boston; he was an American poet and writer, member of fireside poets)

The intentional use of music in the classroom will set the scene and learning atmosphere to enhance our teaching and learning activities. Plus using music for learning makes the process much more fun and interesting! Music, one of the joys of life, can be one of the joys of learning as well.

❖ The Multiple Intelligences:

In 1983 Howard Gardner, psychology professor at Harvard University, presented his Multiple Intelligences theory based upon many tears of research. Promoting the concept that Intelligences is not one entity but that there are many different forms of Intelligences, Gardener has awakened a revolution in learning. The Multiple Intelligences teaching methods recognize eight (though there may be more) forms of intelligence: visual-spatial, linguistic, logical-mathematical, bodily-kinaesthetic, interpersonal, intrapersonal, musical, and most recently naturalist. Multiple Intelligence teachers strive to broaden student’s familiarity and skill levels in each area.

Development of the musical intelligence can be greatly aided by the use of music throughout the curriculum. In addition to learning about musical elements and how to create music, the musical intelligence involves developing an ability to respond to musical sound and the ability to use music effectively in one's life. As a musician who has taught general music in public and private schools I can speak to the value of having students hear music throughout the school day as a means of increasing musical intelligence. The more students listen and respond to a variety of music, the more they will know about music on a personal, real-experience level, the deeper will be their understanding of why people throughout time and around the world create music, the greater will be their ability to use music productively in their lives, and the more eager they will be to develop their musical skills because they will understand, appreciate and enjoy music more!
❖ Classroom outcomes of Music use:
1. Music raise student’s energy levels with upbeat music as needed throughout the day.
2. Play music to reduce stress levels, relieve frustration and create peaceful classroom environment. When science or maths period over then for ice break teacher may use such type music and relax the students.
3. Use music to help sustain student’s attention and concentration. E.g. in ‘konbanegacorerpati’ when they want to ask question to contestant they play music and concentrate him on question.
4. Play music to motivate and inspire your students. While teaching History before starting or between the lesson teachers plays inspirational song it helps students for concentration of lesson as well as recall and makes content perfect. E.g. povada.
5. Play music during independent work and group activity. E.g. when students read the lesson or searching anything on computer for project work, play light music which feel students happy and make good environment for study.
6. During learning activities, play music that will create and appropriate emotional connection to the information and provide a trigger for recall. For example while teaching Marathi subject before starting lesson or poem teacher give small background of that poem or lesson with singing song with rhythm and music, it will inspire students and it will remain in their mind forever.
7. Play music to encourage interaction and build classroom community.
8. Use music in the classroom to increase the joy of learning.
❖ Advantages music use in Teaching:
✓ Focus and Concentration Music:
   • Play background music while students study, read or write to: Increase attention levels, improve retention and memory, extend focused learning time, expand thinking skills.
✓ Creativity and Reflection Music:
   • Play background music for activities – Journaling or writing, problem-solving or goal setting, background for project work, brainstorming.
✓ Welcoming Music:
   • Play as a background for entries, exits, breaks – Greet your student, create a welcoming atmosphere, set a learning rhythm, and expand musical awareness.
Active Learning Music:

- Use for a sound break or movement activities to increase productivity, provide a stimulating sound break to increase attention, make exercise more fun, and encourage movement activities.

Conclusion:
Music is very important in life. Music helps us to establish a positive learning state, create a desired atmosphere, build a sense of anticipation, energize learning activities, change brain wave states, focus concentration, increase tension, enhance imagination, align groups, develop rapport, provide inspiration and motivation and many more benefits to students.