

Why We do What We Do The Way We Do It

by Linda Reimond

Art and Science: A Perfect Mix

What goes up, comes down with a "splat", and prints? A sock filled with sand and dropped from a ladder. And it creates an interesting piece of artwork.

What makes this so special? It is a creative art activity, but also a science experiment. The only thing different with the sand filled sock dropping from a ladder and Galileo dropping objects from a building in the 1500's is that Galileo probably didn't have paint on the objects he dropped. And a child would not say that he/she studied physics at school that day because he/she created the sock-drop painting.

At a workshop with Bev Bos, she stated, "science is elemental play. Science is in every area of a school, art is basic science, music is science and blocks are science. Most of all science is fun and breathtaking for children." How do children best learn academic skills?

Quoting an old Chinese proverb:

....I hear, and I forget.

....I see, and I remember.

....I do, and I understand.

Skills are learned best through active and creative activities. Creativity exists in the arts, science and math. Maya Angelou in her collection of *Words of Hope and Courage* says, "You cannot use up creativity. The more you use, the more you have."

An education in the arts is important for all students whether they become artists, scientists, engineers, architects, machinists or mechanics.

The visual arts teach us to see.
....Music teaches us to listen.
....Dance teaches us to move with joy.
....And drama and literature teach us to see through other people's eyes.

Besides encouraging creativity, maybe the arts can help us become more human!



Art and Science have many of the same principles and goals:

Creative Thinking

Problem Solving

Risk Taking

Hands on and Sensory Experiences

Discovery

