Apr 20th, 4:40 PM - 4:55 PM

The Benefits of Music Education in the Mild to Moderate Special Education Classroom, Grades 3-5

Kimberly Lloyd
Dominican University of California

Survey: Let us know how this paper benefits you.

https://scholar.dominican.edu/scw/scw2017/all-conference/63

This Event is brought to you for free and open access by the Student Scholarship at Dominican Scholar. It has been accepted for inclusion in Scholarly and Creative Works Conference 2020 by an authorized administrator of Dominican Scholar. For more information, please contact michael.pujals@dominican.edu.
The Benefits of Music Education in the Mild to Moderate Special Education Classroom, Grades 3-5

KIMBERLY G. LLOYD
DOMINICAN UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA
SCHOLARLY & CREATIVE WORKS CONFERENCE
APRIL 20, 2017
Statement of the Problem

- A local arts organization in need of a new assessment tool to measure the impact of music on students...
  - Linked to IEP goals
  - Tracked through their educational careers
  - On a per student basis
Research Question

Does music education impact 3rd – 5th grade students with mild to moderate disabilities in developing their academic, social and/or behavioral goals as identified in their Individualized Education Programs (IEPs)?
Literature Review

- Research shows that there are benefits to including the arts in general education
  - *Champions of Change: The Impact of the Arts on Learning*, Edited by Edward B. Fiske
  - *Critical Links: Learning in the Arts and Student Academic and Social Development*, Edited by Richard J. Deasy

- Literature on the benefits of including the arts in special education is limited
Study

- Qualitative case study
  - 9 week music program in a 3rd-5th grade SDC
  - Document review of IEPs
  - Teacher, parent, music teacher interviews
  - Music class observations
  - 3 participants
Participants

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Carmen*</th>
<th>Luis*</th>
<th>John*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 9 year old female  
Disability: ID  
Goal: To verbalize her wants and needs | 8 year old male  
Disability: ID, SLD  
Goal: Follow teacher directions | 9 year old male  
Disability: ASD, ID  
Goal: To participate in group activities |

*To protect confidentiality, students were assigned a pseudonym.*
Findings

- Music program offered social and behavioral benefits

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Carmen</th>
<th>Luis</th>
<th>John</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>IEP goal stayed at baseline</td>
<td>IEP goal met</td>
<td>IEP goal met</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- There continues to be a need for research on this topic
“The arts provide all sorts of wondrous opportunities for all children. However, for exceptional students [students with disabilities], the arts are often a savior, a respite, and a solace that give these children a chance to express themselves and feel good about themselves.”

--Sally Smith, founder of the Lab School for Children with Disabilities