Disciplinary Literacy - Arts

Disciplinary Literacy is comprised of six tools to investigate each content area, listening, performing, speaking, critical thinking, writing, and reading. Check the videos showcasing each tool with arts classroom ideas. For more information click on the Tip Sheet, DL Arts Rubrics, and newsletter issues 2012-13 #7 & #8. If you have any questions or suggestions about these materials, please contact Julie Palkowski, Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction Arts and Creativity Education Consultant.

Listening in the arts involves listening for sound elements, emotional intent, and vocabulary to name a few aspects.
How do students show they are listening and learning?

- Point to vocabulary for concepts.
- Mark music at drop points.
- Create a story to the sounds heard.
- Identify paintings of artists discussed.
- Stand/sit for elements heard.

Performing in the arts offers opportunities to demonstrate knowledge and skills learned. What does performing look like in the arts? These are just a few ways "artists" perform.

Playing music **Exhibiting work** **Being a docent**

Creating **Dancing**

Designing **Portraying a Character**

Critical Thinking in the arts involves a deeper dive asking questions like the following with students:

- How was the piece created?
- Who is the composer/artist/author?
- Do I like the song? Why/Why not?
- Are there other pieces like this?
- If I could change this, what would I add or take away?
- Why was this piece created?

Writing in the arts involves composing and arranging music, creating images to convey a message, arranging a sequence of movement in choreography, and plotting out the blocking of a play in theatre. These are just a few ways "artists" write. They may also create:

MIDI Sequences **Critiques**

Art Compositions **Scripts**

Choreography Notes

Reading in the arts involves using informational text which may include words, numbers, images, or auditory cues. Questions to ask when "Reading" a piece of music, art, dance , or theatre notes include:

- What is the theme of the artwork? Describe the work.
- What is the artist trying to say in the piece?
- What do you think about the work?
- What clues identify what the piece

Speaking in the arts offers the opportunity for students to share what they know and to ask questions. We can use speech to define, discuss, share, clarify, and ask questions. Here are some ways "artists" use speech.

Participate in call/response **Share with a partner**

Share a play scene **Act as a docent**

Verbalize a technique