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CAN A NON-TRADITIONAL APPROACH TO MUSIC DEVELOP THE LEARNING POTENTIAL OF PRIMARY SCHOOL LEARNERS ?

by

Maria Emmerentia van Niekerk

Submitted in fulfilment of the requirements for the degree

M.Ed.
(Curriculum Studies)

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SYNOPSIS

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by

MARIA EMMERENTIA VAN NIEKERK

STUDY LEADER : DR ANNEMARIE VAN LOGGERENBERG

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M.ED. (CURRICULUM STUDIES)

in the Faculty of Education at the University of Pretoria

According to various educationalists we have reached the end of the modern era and are facing the postmodern era. It has become necessary to explore the postmodern era to bring about an understanding of the current world the learner develops in. The postmodern learning area is an active, integrated, learner-centred learning environment where learners learn through communicating with peers and educators, by choosing their own learning activities and where own internal experiences, rather than external objectives are important.

Music bears the unique quality of possessing the potential of developing the whole person - intellectual, emotional, spiritual and psychomotor, the whole brain and the multiple intelligences of learners.

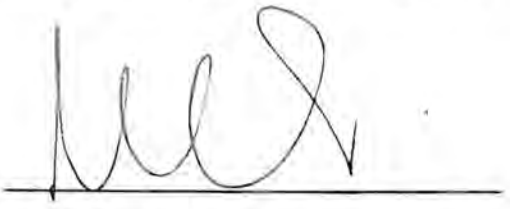
By means of a quantitative and qualitative research approach an investigation was launched into a non-traditional approach to music in the music and general learning environment. Questionnaires which included open-ended questions, as well as semi-structured interviews were administrated to educators and primary school principals.

The abovementioned investigations lead to findings and conclusions. It was found that educators were aware of the development of the whole person, whole brain and multiple intelligence, but the level of implementation was mostly on the lower levels of learning performance.

Recommendations were made by means of the designing of a DLP-Conceptual Framework for Music. Secondary recommendations were offered as well as recommendations for further research in fields related to the topic of this study.

DECLARATION

I declare that the dissertation, which I hereby submit for the degree M.Ed. (Curriculum Studies) at the University of Pretoria, is my own work and has not previously been submitted by me for a degree at another university.



MARIA EMMERENTIA VAN NIEKERK

WORD OF THANKS

Dr Annemarie van Loggerenberg - study leader

Piet van Niekerk, Pieter-Peet van Niekerk, Nardo van Niekerk - husband and sons

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KEYWORDS

Postmodern paradigm

Transformational curriculum

Arts and Culture learning area

Non-traditional approach to music

Whole person

Whole brain

Multiple intelligence

Extracurricular involvement

Development of learning potential