

Curriculum themes for C7

Child development and lemotif for this class
<p>In class 7 the students are often confronted with a range of developmental challenges that can push them to their limits and beyond. The experience of powerlessness and injustice can be overpowering, prompting responses from self-harm, inner emigration, eating disorders, aggression towards self and others, challenges to all forms of authority. At the same time new levels of sensitivity, empathy, identification can open young people to others and to the world. They can respond to social injustice in the present and past with deeply felt concern.</p> <p>In this class a major theme is meeting the other, finding commonality in difference and discovering that people can find solutions together based on empirical evidence combined with imagination. In order to be able to do this they have to direct their gaze and attention to details in the world, away from their own emotional responses. One very rich field of life experience is the outdoor world of nature and activities such as hiking, climbing, bivouacking, that involve extremes of effort, technical skills, companionship as well as more reflective activities such as tracking and bird watching that bring the students into close encounters with nature. Teachers are required who can be role models of cooperation with good listening skills and sensitivity, self-humour and honesty who mediate the feeling, life is complex and sometimes bad, but together we can make a difference.</p> <p>Key themes include the clash of cultures through European colonization and biographical consequences for people around the world, creative writing is an important outlet for personal expression that also has the explicit aim of reaching others, chemical processes mirror alchemical/psychological processes, economic geography shows how the world of trade works and the forms of justice and injustice that accompany these processes, making shoes and clothes blends aesthetics, practical needs and skills and understanding of economic processes, and questions of nutrition.</p>
Narrative Themes
Youth literature, historical fiction from the Middle Ages to the 19th Century
Musical Themes
<p>Qualities:</p> <p>Any key, any rhythm, simple polyphony but NOT rounds, as they are hard for changing voices to pitch. Simple three part songs, with lower part suited to boys voices. Fairly narrow range in all parts, don't pitch too high.</p> <p>Topics:</p> <p>Geography & travel influencing music (in preparation for fusion): songs that have travelled (to USA, from USA, Appalachian and Cajun songs, songs from South America).</p> <p>Songs expressing contrasting emotions.</p> <p>Songs that tell a story – ballads.</p> <p>Songs from Renaissance – madrigals may be a little too hard as yet...</p>
Artistic Themes
<p>Drawing and painting – perspective and shadow, colour landscapes</p> <p>Modelling gesture and movement</p> <p>Materials: watercolour paints and inks, clay, Caran d'ache pencils, charcoal sticks/pencils, graphite pencils, gouache</p>
Physical Themes

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