



Features of authentic arts learning

- 1 Authentic arts learning is multi-dimensional and embraces arts making and arts understandings.
- 2 At its core, authentic arts learning is practical in nature and learning is achieved by doing.
- 3 Authentic arts programs focus on developing children's capacity to express their ideas and feelings and to present their creation in artistic forms. They therefore incorporate opportunities for children to:
 - imaginatively develop their own ideas and solve problems;
 - learn or practise skills with arts materials, concepts and processes;
 - think reflectively and respond to their own work and the work of others;
 - link their arts experiences to the wider world of arts culture.
- 4 Project approaches as represented by units of inquiry promote sustained engagement with concepts or ideas that create genuine arts learning opportunities. Units of inquiry support authentic arts learning.
- 5 The value of an arts program can be established by asking the following questions:
 - What opportunities are there for creative thinking and ideas development?
 - What art concepts and skills are being taught or practised?
 - What opportunities for imaginative interpretation and self-expression are provided?
 - How does this lesson make cultural connections to the wider world of art?
 - What opportunities are there for reflective thinking and responding?
 - How will completing this lesson contribute to children's art literacy?
- 6 The arts are integrated in the curriculum in ways that support arts learning as well as learning in other areas of the curriculum.