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5th/6th Grade General Music

Music Advocacy Lessons

How Can Music Help Me?

Day 1

Materials: Handouts (How Can Music Help Me and Research), link to broader-minded website/

PowerPoint with research information

Objective: Students will reflect on why music is important to them and discover ways science

has proven music can help them.

Procedure:

1.) Intro: Music has an impact on your life. All you need to do is turn on the T.V. or your iPod!

Ask students how they encounter music in their everyday lives.

2.) Pass out How Can Music Help Me? Handout. "Think about why music is important to you.

How can music help you in other areas of your life? Do you think that singing or playing an

instrument could help you understand science better? Could music help you become a better

athlete or dancer? Write your thoughts here." (5 minutes) Collect handout.

3.) Class discussion on How can Music Help Me handout. ("Who would like to share their

answer for [read question]?)

3.) Show broader-minded/ STEAM PowerPoint. Explain how I practiced to become proficient on

my flute. Discuss times when students had to work hard to achieve a goal.

4.) Pass out Music Research handout. Small group work (2-3 students): Write a summary of what the music research paragraph says. One person writes and turns handout in.

*Use Dr. Schatt's research in music handout as a guide

5.) Ask students to bring colored pencils, markers, or highlighters to class tomorrow.

Day 2

Materials: Music Problem-Solving handout, advocacy poster checklist, long pieces of yellow paper, markers/highlighters/colored pencils

Objective: Students will continue to discover how music can help them by using critical thinking strategies and beginning to create a music advocacy poster.

Procedure:

- 1.) Review: read answers from How Can Music Help Me? handout. Use as a vehicle for a short class discussion.
- 2.) Create a mind map: what skills to musicians have (what are they good at?)
- 3.) Music Problem Solving together as a class: Present a scenario, ask what music skills would help you solve the problem, ask how would solve the problem (write answers on the board).
- 3.) Small group work (2-3 students): "Let's keep thinking about how music can help you. Each group has a real life scenario. List the music skills that could help you solve this problem. Then write down how your group would solve this problem. "One person from each group will write down the answers and turn in the paper." Relate to student's interests.
- 4.) Music Advocacy Poster: A picture says a thousand words. How will you show the world that music can help you?

Pass out poster checklist- your poster will have:

- Sketched in pencil and approved before adding color.
- 3 facts about music research
- At least one picture relating to your facts
- A one line "slogan" that explains how music helps you
- Your name (on back)

Teacher shows the class an example. "You will each turn in your posters at the end of class today. If you would like, you may take a copy of the poster home and create a poster on the computer to turn in to me by Monday" (If time allows: write numbers on each poster and have class review each)

Note: This would work well in October when students begin recorders. Tie into how could playing the recorder help me? Could also work in middle of year as team building activity or as part of intro to music is science or math.