

## Some Thoughts on Integrating Art with Other Subject Areas

in•te•grate v 1. *To make whole or complete by adding or bringing together parts.*  
2. *To put or bring together into a whole.*

Webster Dictionary

Some synonyms: merge, harmonize, orchestrate, combine, unify, consolidate

*From the standpoint of the school curriculum, art should serve to motivate and enrich the entire curriculum, and it should contribute generously to the integration of school experience.*

**-Leon Winslow**

The *Integrated School Program* (1939)

*Education in order to accomplish its ends both for the individual learner and for society must be based upon experience – which is always the actual life-experience of some individual.*

**-John Dewey**

Experience & Education (1938)

*The function of art within any type of school has been a subject of controversy among art educators. Some suggest that art should be the core of the elementary curriculum; others are opposed to any efforts to integrate art with other subjects. We believe that the natural core that can integrate work in a school is an attitude, not a subject area. We define that attitude as curiosity, aided by increasing perceptual awareness of and sensitivity to the world around us. The development of such an attitude is a natural byproduct of a strong art program.*

**-Elaine Cohen & Ruther Gainer**

Art, Another Language for Learning (1995)

*Where is the evidence that integrated teaching promotes meaningful learning? What kinds of integrated teaching and learning are compelling, powerful, and meaningful to children? Does one discipline become subservient to another – or to the “theme” – and thus get misrepresented or diminished? What are we giving up?*

**-Kathleen Roth**

The American Educator (Spring 1994)