

Using Art to Study Collaboration: Adaptive Art, an Enriching Experience



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"Whenever I work with new people, I am inspired to consider new things..." Kathryn Rulien-Bareis, Cooperating Art Teacher & Collaborator

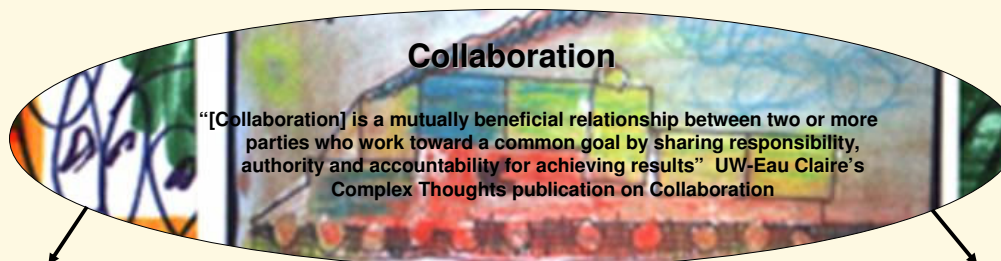
❖ Personal Interest

- ❖ Block experience: in my teacher education program at UW-Eau Claire, I was involved in the cohort, a program based on collaborative learning.
- ❖ A unit writing challenge: my coursework inspired me to seek out a unique collaboration with a middle school adaptive arts teacher. I designed and taught a unit to an Adaptive Art class.
- ❖ Personal Interest: more practice in the Adaptive Art room before beginning student teaching.

❖ Process

- ❖ Engaging a busy teacher: present myself and explain the project to the teacher I hoped to work with, Ms. Kathryn Rulien-Bareis at DeLong Middle School.
- ❖ Communication: many emails and meetings to decide what experiences the students would benefit the most from.
- ❖ Research: writing, editing, rewriting, creating assistive technology aids, and much email communication for an excellent art unit and experience for all involved.
- ❖ Setup: emails and meetings helped review the unit and decide on presentation day.
- ❖ Teach: reflect and repeat!

"Whenever new ideas come into the classroom that have been thoughtfully developed, students benefit"
Kathryn Rulien-Bareis, Cooperating Art Teacher & Collaborator



"If you bring the appropriate people together in constructive ways...they will create authentic visions and strategies for addressing the shared concerns of the organization or community."
UW-Eau Claire's Complex Thoughts publication on Collaboration



- ❖ What needs to be in place for collaboration to be successful?
- ❖ Who benefits from collaboration?
- ❖ What does the process that leads to a productive collaboration look like?



- ❖ Empowered
- ❖ New Ideas, Perspectives, Knowledge
- ❖ Establishing Relationships
- ❖ Camaraderie
- ❖ Articulation
- ❖ Initiative
- ❖ Flexibility
- ❖ Investment in students and community
- ❖ Learning as symbiotic
- ❖ Self Reflection



- ❖ New Ideas
- ❖ Different Perspectives
- ❖ Considering New Options
- ❖ Inspiration
- ❖ Developing New Knowledge
- ❖ Reflection
- ❖ Two heads are better than one!



- ❖ Different Views in the classroom
- ❖ New Learning
- ❖ Establishing Relationships with those outside the school



- ❖ Communication
- ❖ Time
- ❖ Scheduling
- ❖ Lack of Funding



Collaboration between teachers leads to highly effective teaching and learning geared toward specific student populations and needs.



Book:

- ❖ Learning to teach, teaching to learn : stories of collaboration in teacher education / edited by D. Jean Clandinin ... [et al.]. 1993

Websites:

- ❖ Collaborative Solutions. <<http://collaborativesolutions.us/about.htm>>.
- ❖ Complex Thoughts Collaboration. UWEC Activities and Programs Complex Thoughts. UWEC adapted from Cougar Clues, University of Minnesota-Morris, and Chrislip and Larson's Collaborative Leadership. <<http://www.uwec.edu/dc/ap/complexthoughts/Collaboration.html>>