WHEN IN DOUBT... POSTER IT OUT!
NOTHING TO DO? SCISSORS AND GLUE!
Creating visuals to support knowledge acquisition

Creating posters as an informal or formal assessment is a great way to combine art and communication skills. Students become engaged in the work as they have the chance to show their knowledge in visual form – especially for students who struggle with linguistic communication due to disorders or learning English.

The action of cutting out images, arranging them creatively and combining art and writing in one place can also support students with ADHD by providing motor activities for their hands, while their brains think.

"THE ARTS REPRESENT A DIRECT CONNECTION BETWEEN CREATIVE AND ANALYTICAL THOUGHT, AND THEY PROVIDE HIGHLY SUCCESSFUL METHODS TO CONVEY ACADEMIC IDEAS IN AN ENGAGING AND SUBSTANTIVE MANNER" – Reif and Grant, 2010

EVIDENCE OF EFFECTIVENESS


Supporting student learning through creative pursuits

**MIND MAPS AND GRAPHICS AND BAR CHARTS, OH MY!**
Turning ideas into images to support struggling students

Graphic representations of multi-step learning activities can help students stay on task, organize thoughts and avoid becoming overwhelmed by work.

Mind maps are great for taking notes and prepping for essays, graphics support vocabulary development for mild developmental delays and English language learning and bar charts are a great way to create physical representations of challenging math word problems.

![Mind map for essay planning](image1)

![Vocab graffiti for science class](image2)

Ways art is being used to teach subject matter:

1. Using Make Beliefs Comix to generate comics and help students with emotional disorders process emotional issues.
2. Studying Mexican mosaics in geometry class to help English language learners feel welcome.
3. Designing Shakespearean sets to learn about Elizabethan England.
4. Teaching the physics of light through studying colors in paintings.

![Guided drawing of word problems](image3)

**BUILDING ART, BUILDING COMMUNITY**
Teaching social skills, academic skills and respect through art

Bringing art into a curricular classroom is easy! To do it, just use it to support instruction as projects and assessments, learning support, reading material or as a full part of the curriculum providing the relevancy for new knowledge.

**4 Steps for Success:**

1. Get paper, colored pencils and markers and make them available for students.
2. Choose a concept to have them DRAW or use a graphic organizer to have them write down their thoughts on a topic.
3. Ask students to reflect and discuss what they drew or how they organized it.
4. Try another method!

![Guided drawing of word problems](image4)

For example: Creating a mural of an ecosystem as a class (especially great for students with autism). Draw detailed pictures of word problems (Students with learning and math based disabilities will excel). Have a Socratic seminar about a piece of art or a picture book (wonderful for students struggling with English or verbal communication).