

Poster Presentation ES

## **INTEGRATION OF FINE ARTS IN A WRITER'S WORKSHOP**

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I implemented a creative writer's workshop as my self-study inquiry during my student teaching experience in a second grade classroom in response to the absence of a structured writing program. This six-week program utilized music and visual arts as brainstorming tools in an effort to learn how a creative writer's workshop might influence students' writing, attitudes towards writing, and classroom community. Data collection included student work samples, field notes, student interviews, and videos. Analysis of this data leads me to conclude that through the inclusion of fine arts in writing, a community of inspired writers is created and creativity of student stories is also increased, based on comparisons to student work done prior to this study. The results highlight the positive effects both fine arts and a writer's workshop have in the classroom, such as increased student interest, more detailed writing, and the formation of positive peer relationships.