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Retention Through Song One Teacher's Journey with Song in the Classroom

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One Teacher's Journey with *Songs* in the Classroom

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Guiding Questions

- How can I foster student enjoyment for learning with song?
- How can songs most effectively be used to help students to retain content?

Methodology

- The study took place during my student teaching in my fourth grade classroom of 29 students
- Data included student work, student journals, lesson plans and field notes.
- Four songs were used during grammar, math and science lessons, three of them set to popular melodies.

“You could make songs for learning!”

Multiplication Song

Factors are the numbers that you multiply
Together they make a factor pair.
The product is the answer of the two of them!
Whoaa, Whoa oa oa o

Multiples are products of a number
You can skip add to find them too!
See how multiplying is made easy now!
Whoa Whoa, oa oa oa o

Results

- When proper foundation for content was given and enough repetitions of songs and chants were administered, students positively retained information.
- All songs were memorized over time by students
- Students who were first skeptical about singing in class became some of the most enthusiastic singers.
- Students of all behavioral and academic levels came to love singing, as well as trying out a few dance moves.
- Students recommended singing to other future students.
- Parents loved hearing their student's enthusiasm for songs in class.

Purpose

The aim of my self study was to foster an enjoyment for singing songs in the classroom and create a positive learning environment, as well as discover if utilizing songs and chants in the classroom would aid students in retaining content.

“I can name ten linking verbs! Am, is, are, was, were, has been, have been, had been, shall be, will be..”

“You taught us songs that we love!”

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