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**Importance of Teaching Art**

* Opens up a way of expression many people may be looking for or seeking out
* Is a different language on its own and reaches across centuries of history connecting different people together
* Teaches students and others to think openly and interpret different viewpoints
* Offers the chance to view things from a three-dimensional point of view versus two-dimensionally
* Allows teachers an opportunity to teach students about vulnerability and how they don’t have to be afraid of opening up
* Can build a community within the school where people are open to share their ideas
* Has the students think critically not about just their work, but their peers and how that can change what they do
* Teaches the importance of seeking out critical feedback and using it to grow
* Pushes the need for collaboration with peers either in idea generation or the creative process

**Assessment**

* *Pre-assessment*
  + Allows the teacher to get a general feel for what the class will be like and figure out a plan of action on to best help them develop their varying skill levels
  + Offers the students the chance to see where they stand in relation to the content area they’re in
  + Creates a foundation of understanding where the teacher can measure students’ growth over time
* *Formative Assessment*
  + Allows the teacher to assess where they themselves are in relation to how effective their teaching is
  + Creates a collective of data that can be used to help the students by better defining and refining lessons and instruction
  + Works well as a gauging of how well the teacher is doing in relation to how they’re making things clear for students to understand
* *Summative Assessment*
  + Works well to gauge students’ growth throughout the semester in comparison to what the pre-assessment had at the beginning
  + Allows the teacher to see which students grew, which didn’t, and reflect on what they could do for those that struggle (seen in formative assessments)
  + Focuses on the whole picture versus individual skills involved in projects