Listen Up! The Impact of Music on Students' Reading Comprehension

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Date of Award
Spring 5-12-2017

Degree Type
Thesis

Degree Name
Master of Science in Education (MSEd)

Department
Education and Human Development

First Advisor
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Abstract
This research explores the implementation of instrumental versions of modern day music during guided reading groups as a teaching tool to assist students' reading comprehension. The purpose of this study is to better support all students' reading comprehension skills through implementing music as a tool during guided reading lessons. Data were collected for this study over a period of four weeks using running reading records, a retelling assessment, an interview, and observation notes during guided reading lessons. Data were analyzed for how the music impacted students' reading comprehension as a whole.

Repository Citation
https://digitalcommons.brockport.edu/ehd_theses/771

Abstract—The influence of music on language learning and performance has been the subject of study for many years. "Compared with sitting in silence for 10 min, listening to Mozart induces more positive moods and relatively optimal levels of arousal, which lead to higher levels of performance on tests of spatial abilities" (Schellenberg, 2004). However, Schellenberg (2004) claims that in subsequent studies replicating the Mozart Effect have been difficult. In a similar study, Liapis, Giddens and Uhlenbrok (2008) tested the impacts of lyrical and non-lyrical music on reading comprehension. 1) Warming up on the passage: The teacher asks the students different questions concerning the subject of the passage to draw their attention to what they are going to read. (5 min.)