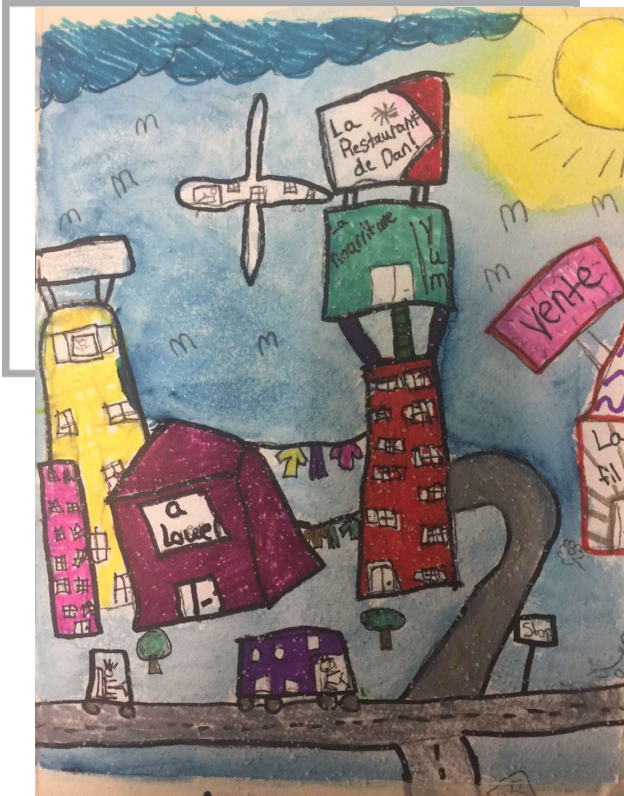


Île-du-Prince-Édouard



Take the Challenge...

Open your mind...

Imagine...Create... Innovate!

Open your mind and learn through the arts: 2017-2018

A year in review

What is ArtsSmarts?

ArtsSmarts is the largest education initiative in Canada dedicated to improving the lives and learning capacity of learners by including arts into academic programs. The importance of engaging young people in artistic activity is critical to their evolution as creative thinkers and doers.

ArtsSmarts

- ignites young people's excitement about learning curricula through the arts;
- inspires collaboration among artists and educators, schools and communities;
- invests financially and strategically in learning networks at local, regional, provincial and national levels to build capacity for arts and educators ;
- supports a new vision for public educators.

The purpose of the ArtsSmarts PEI Learning Experience is to develop global creative / innovative thinkers and doers by integrating the creative process of the arts into school curricula.

The mission of ArtsSmarts PEI is to:

- offer schools and their communities the chance to emphasize educational activities related to the arts;
- encourage students to develop their intellectual skills by participating in arts activities; enable students to be able to find their identity, life balance, and personal well being; and inspire artists and educators to work together to integrate arts activities into subject areas with direct links to educational outcomes.

The objective is to nurture and develop:

creativity within every person
creative process
creative environment
creative product
creative teaching
life balance and
personal well-being



Hon. Jordan Brown
Minister of Education, Early Learning and Culture

ArtsSmarts Quick Facts:

Founded in 2004, GénieArtsSmart PEI has created a new way of learning for Island Students. In 2017 - 2018 a total budget of \$36 500 was invested in 14 Island schools and 4 Early Years Centers

In 2017 – 2018 over 890 students from the Early Years Centers to Grade 12 participated in this program

ArtsSmarts celebrates the learning through conversations, observations and demonstrations.

The students and their parents had nothing but good things to say about ArtsSmarts. What a privilege to have taken part in such a dynamic, well organized and creative learning experience. I've learned just as much as the students.... Teacher Eliot River Elementary School

journalpioneer.com

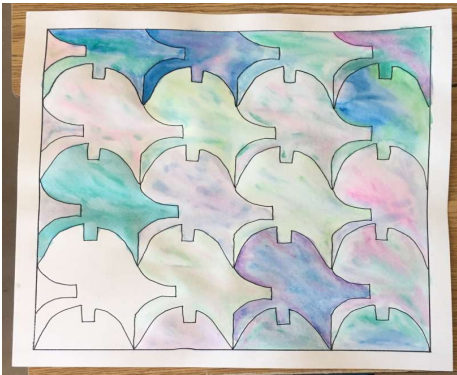
ArtsSmarts project rolls out in schools

The Journal Pioneer
Published: Mar 22 at 9:32 a.m.



Minister Jordan Brown, left, with artist Dina Blot and West Royalty Elementary teacher Tracey Smith and students. - Submitted

- Exploring and Experimenting
 - uses a range of techniques, conventions, and elements or principles in response to the challenge, stimulus, or inspiration
 - may allow the process to guide further discoveries
- Producing Preliminary Work
 - commits to choices and process, and works to make his or her purpose clear for an intended audience
 - creates the template, prototype or product (i.e., the embodiment of the idea)
- Revising and Refining
 - shares preliminary work with peers; invites outside opinions; develops and refines the formal concepts
 - reworks the product, building on strengths and incorporating feedback
 - develops and modifies initial idea; makes choices, adapts, and shapes
- Exhibiting, Presenting, Performing, and Sharing
 - identifies an audience (e.g., teacher, parents, peers, community) and prepares a strategy and space for sharing the work; finalizes his or her production/presentation
- Reflecting and Evaluating
 - reflects on the process and the degree of success, and identifies further learning goals and opportunities and next steps



Testimonies

Eliot River Teacher testimony:

This program absolutely needs to continue. I have been a convert for many years, and would fully encourage all teachers to participate, both those who feel they have artistic talent as well as those who don't feel that way. There is something incredibly special about the work of teaching in collaboration with an artist. The atmosphere in the classroom changes: the smiles and the laughter resonate in the room... We feel fortunate to have had the opportunity to participate in the program. We believe that the provincial administrators of ArtsSmarts truly listened to the teachers and artist involved over the years, as a result have streamlined the application and delivery process involved in completing our project. ...We are most grateful.



Eliot River Learners testimony:

I loved that we got to learn about Leonardo da Vinci and how he could kind of look to the future on the inventions that are with us today. I also liked that we got to be taken seriously like an artist and not just some kid.

Parent testimony:

I think there is much to be gained by teaching children how to express themselves through art. The life of a child has many stresses, some that we didn't even face as kids, art and creativity is a great outlet for stress.

An ArtsSmart's Legacy Celebrating Canada's 150th anniversary

Montague Consolidated School

Celebrating Canada and the PEI Red Fox project moves to the next step.

Name of Project: Celebrating Canada and the PEI Red Fox

Name of Teacher: Edwena Arbuckle

Name of Artist: David Trimble

Number of learners and grade level: 21 grade 5 students

Various curriculum links explored during this experience include: Health, Language Arts, Math, Science and Social Studies

February 2017 – June 2017

Learners individually created a 16 X 20 acrylic portrait of the Prince Edward Island red fox identifiable in its natural habitat. As students worked on these individual portraits, they also created and prepared documentation to request that the Prince Edward Island Legislative Assembly adopt the red fox as the provincial animal. A request to amend the Provincial Emblem and Honours Act to name the red fox as the provincial animal will leave a legacy for the celebration of Canada's 150th

October 2017

Montague Consolidate School students and their teacher Ms. Artbuckle made a presentation to the Standing Committee on Education and Economic Development, asking to amend the Provincial Emblems and Honours Act by naming the red fox PEI's provincial animal

Isaiah William a student indicates... It's in our history and it's in our culture. We got placed on the map from our fox pelts and our fox farms back years ago and they're so common now. You can find tones in Charlottetown and you can be driving down the country and foxes cross the street...

journalpioneer.com

Katie Smith (katie.smith@theguardian.pe.ca)

Published: Jun 20 at 7:20 a.m.

Updated: Jun 20 at 9:17 a.m.



Norbert Carpenter, right, principal at Montague Consolidated School, joins Grade 7 students from Montague Intermediate School Keaton MacDonald, left, Alex Beck and Isaiah Williams at the intermediate school on June 19, as they pose with a photograph given to them by the province as an acknowledgment of the work they did to get the red fox named as P.E.I.'s provincial animal. - Katie Smith

May 2018

The red fox comes out on top, name PEI'S provincial animal following a unanimous vote making the red fox the animal emblem for PEI.

"I learned to follow your dreams as far as you can, and if you succeed, it's obviously great."
Student Montague Consolidated School

"I thought it used to be so much simpler than it is, but now I realize how many layers there is to the government and how much it has to go through for something to happen." ... Student Montague Consolidated School



Queen Elizabeth Elementary School

Name of Project: Now and Then - Then and Now
Name of Teacher(s): Tammy Rice and Marilee Reeves
Name of Artist(s): Maurice Bernard
Number of learners and grade level: 45 grade 6 learners

Various curriculum links explored during this experience included:
Math, Language Arts and Social Studies

Learners discovered different aspects of their community surrounding Queen Elizabeth Elementary School. Through this project, learners studied various communities including Kensington, New Annan, Malpeque and French River in both 2018 and how it was back in 1918. They researched agriculture, fishing, transportation, schooling, merchants, etc. in both 1918 and 2018.

Following the research students created a visual clay representation of the transitions since 1918. Forty-five individual two and three-dimensional projects are now part of a large mural that visually represents the transition of their community in the past 100 years.

Students immediately embraced the idea and soon began to take ownership of the project. They worked diligently to research their specific area, study impact on people of the community and how change had occurred over the course of time. Many students discovered hidden talents and a new interest in the arts. Parents were amazed at the beautiful work completed by the students. They were happy to have their children participate. This project has greatly enriched the learning opportunity for each of our students. The project provided an opportunity to work collaboratively and share their new learning in an artistic setting.
Teacher - Queen Elizabeth Elementary School.



Early Learning Centres

Rustico and Souris (French/English) - April 27 to May 11, 2018

Early Learning Centers:

Gulf Shore Early Years Centre Inc.

Les Petits Rayons de Soleil (Francophone)

Eastern Kings Early Learning Academy

Le château des étoiles (Francophone)

Artistes:

Merrissa Ladéroute - Dance

Emily MacDonald – Dance

Lynn Gaudet - Visual Artist

Various curriculum links explored during this experience included:

Rhythm and movement in music and compared it to the idea of “emotional music” with “emotional painting”. Learners gained an understanding of how much of a role emotion plays in art making as they created paintings based on feelings/emotions. Learners experienced emotions/feelings by doing various dance steps which were then be transferred to a visual art piece.

Vocabulary:

Image, feeling, emotion, idea, expression, color, texture, line, imagine, create, change, evolve, happy, sad, angry, excited, alone, bright, dull, experience, share



Project Coordination: A collaboration with the Fédération culturelle de l'Île-du-Prince-Édouard and ArtsSmartes PEI.

PEI Human Rights Commission – Mi'kmaq at 12,000+ and Canadians at 150: Celebrating a Journey of Reconciliation in partnership with ArtsSmarts and UPEI Faculty of Education

Through this program students created short drama/video productions. Practicum Students worked with participating Lead Teachers to integrate curriculum links such as, Social Studies, History, Arts, Drama, Math, Music, Language Arts, Writing, Creative Multimedia etc. while working to obtain the project outcomes.

These short productions demonstrated how various identities/communities come together to shape our social fabric as we see it here today on our Journey of Reconciliation.

A society that embraces its diversity supports creativity and progress as it sustains culture.

PEI Human Rights Commission:
Tom Hilton, Project Lead Canada 150 Project

Number of Learners participating: 142

Participating school:
John J. Sark Memorial School
École François Buote
Morell High School
Montague Regional High School
Stratford Elementary

Artists:
Julia Pellissier Lush, Playwright
Gilbert Sark, Drummer and Artist
Georgina Francis, Jingle Dancer
Marlene Thomas, Quilling

Lead Teachers:
Maxime Duguay, Ecole Francois Buote
Brett Wilson, Morell High School
Barbara Smith, John J. Sark Memorial School
Kathryn Rajamanie, Montague Regional High School
Ellen Davis, Stratford Elementary School

Practicum Students:
Amy Gillis – John J. Sark Memorial School

Chantal Hamel Bouchard – Ecole Francois Buote
Marie Pierre Savoie – Ecole Francois Buote
John Doohan – Morell Regional High School

ArtsSmarts Representation:

Vicki Allen Cook, Arts Education Consultant
Gilles Arsenault, French Programs Consultant
Cécile Arsenault, ArtsSmarts Coordinator

UPEI Faculty of Education:

Carolyn Francis, Practice Teaching Coordinator

Aboriginal Elders:

Charlotte Morris, Residential School Survivor
Marlene Thomas, Residential School Survivor
John Doran, 60s Scoop Survivor
Kathy Archer, Residential School Survivor

"That was the best human Rights Day yet...I am amazed at how much I learned from the students' presentations" said Janice Gillis

"The event's message was very important and that it reminds him we have to take every opportunity we have to educate and stand proud" said Chief Brian Francis of Abegweit First Nation

"We're all hoping that other people are going to see this video and hopefully other people are going to recognize how important this truth and reconciliation is going to be for Canada as a whole," said student Kate Compton.

"I didn't know much about it, so actually getting to hear the stories was really eye opening," said student Rachell Bradley.

Video by Morell high school students explores history of residential schools



The video will be presented at an event Monday organized by the P.E.I. Human Rights Commission

Sarah MacMillan - CBC News

December 11, 2017



Brenda J. Picard, Q.C.
Exécutive Director

November 8, 2017

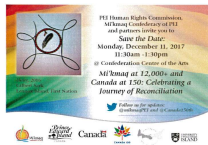
I am pleased to invite you to Human Rights Day 2017 which will focus on our Canadian Heritage – Canada 150 funded project. Our event, entitled: *Mi'kmaq @ 12,000+ & Canada @ 150: Celebrating a Journey of Reconciliation* will be held at Memorial Hall, Confederation Centre of the Arts December 11 between 11:30 and 1:30. We will be highlighting the work and awareness displayed by our public school students. They have been learning about the impacts of colonization and opportunities for reconciliation between Canada's indigenous and non-indigenous peoples. Come and meet Commission members and staff, our education partners and many Island students.

The structured program will run between 12:00 and 1:00 p.m. and features contributions from students in four schools - Ecole François Baucé, J.J. Saik Memorial and Morell and Montague High Schools – who are learning from, and creating with, a Mi'kmaq artist and either an Indian Residential Schooling or 60's Scoop survivor. We look forward to seeing what they create to "Celebrate our Journey" and hope you will be able to join us.

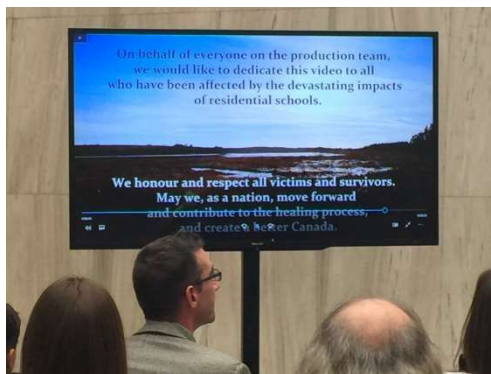
Please RSVP to: hilton@pehumanrights.ca.

Wela'in,


Brenda Picard Q.C.



Tel/Tel: 902-369-4190 Toll Free/Sans Frais: 1-800-237-5031 Fax/Fax: 902-368-4236 <http://www.pehumanrights.ca>
bpicard@pehumanrights.ca



Birchwood Intermediate School

Name of Project: From the Stone Age to Postmodernism and Deconstructivism: The History of Art

Name of Teacher(s): Frances Ann Squire

Name of Artist(s): Stephen B. MacInnis

Number of learners and grade level: 100 grade 9 learners

Various curriculum links explored during this experience
Language Arts, Social Studies and Technology

The Stone Age to Postmodernism and Deconstructivism: a historical research of art periods/movements, chief artists to the present.

Upon completion of the historical research the final exhibit covering all periods of art. Written biographical/historical pieces created by individual learners represented the art. Learners selected a piece of art or artist from a particular independent research to become an expert art historian



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Upon completion the students peer-shared to examine, analyze and discuss how art had evolved over time. The visual art history timeline was also publically shared.

The program made a difference for this educator who values art in education and for learners who had not had an opportunity to engage with an arts education program. Students learned a lot about art and culture based on their historical research... One student commented it was really cool to see how things were designed and made and appreciated back then..... Many students also said how much they appreciated being able to select who or what to research,

teachers usually tell us what to do, you let us choose what we wanted to research and make what we wanted to make.. Teacher Birchwood Intermediate School

The ArtsSmarts program was a very fun project; I enjoyed conducting research to learn about my artist and I learned a lot about my writing style. Engaging in hands on art was a lot of fun... Student Birchwood Intermediate School

36 Learners participated in the Learners Survey

100% of the learners indicated that they learned about the history and culture of the arts through the project during the learning experience.

75% of the learners indicated they found it easier to learn about how to conduct research, write an informative paper, and learn about history and culture using an art project like ArtsSmarts.

West Royalty Elementary School

Name of Project: Habitat Slideshow and Museum

Name of Teacher(s): Tracey Smith

Name of Artist(s): Dina Blot

Number of learners and grade level: 70 grade 4 learners

Various curriculum links explored during this experience included:

Visual Arts, Technology, Science, Math and Language Arts

Learners worked with artist Dina Blot to create 3D Habitat Museums. Through the creation of a 3D representation, learners enhanced the comprehension on various habitats by the utilization of technology to research information and create pictures/charts/diagrams and to prepare a slideshow presentation investigating various forms of habitat. The final work boasted a display of 3D Habitat Museum created by the learners and a slideshow that provided an interpretation of what visitors to the museum experienced as they visit the 3D Habitat Museum.

ArtsSmarts hands an artist the key to unlock a door into a classroom where you become part of the educational team to give children a chance to look at the world from a creative perspective. It lets them experience, hands-on, working with different mediums and shows them another side of themselves or even awakens a passion from within. To be able to participate in their endeavor as an artist is a chance for personal development, self fulfillment, social inclusion and active citizenship...Artist West Royalty

The students were proud of their artwork and received numerous compliments. The students learned to make a slideshow, it was wonderful to see their growth as they edited, found pictures and researched relevant information. They have experiences they would not have had if it wasn't for ArtsSmarts. Students had a unique experience to explore, with the help of an artist, a side of themselves through the art that would not be done in the classroom. This program is very valuable to us and the students that are lucky enough to experience it.
Teacher West Royalty Elementary School

It's a great project in school. It teaches kids how to recycle and use old material. It lets kids know the ways of reducing waste... Parent West Royalty Elementary

My child's confidence was very high during this experience which was great to see... Parent West Royalty Elementary

Very well done. Really enjoyed the personal slide show and the students were very excited and proud to show off their presentations... .. Parent West Royalty Elementary

All students should have an opportunity to work alongside and artist to create something new and different that isn't typically taught..... Parent West Royalty Elementary

Instead of just talking about it they created it... it was an engaging activity with learning through a unique medium to become active participants in creating a habitat...What a great connection. Teacher West Royalty Elementary School



Montague Regional High School

Name of Project: Reconciliation
Name of Teacher(s): Katheryn Rajamanie
Name of Artist(s): Marlene Thomas
Number of learners and grade level: 25 grades 10 to 12 learners

Various curriculum links explored during this experience included:
Visual Arts, Drama, Music, History, Cultural Studies and Language Arts

Students worked with the artist to understand the changes needed for Reconciliation with the First Nations People.

Students were able to discuss with an elder and the artist as they took part in a hands on experience with the porcupine quilling process. Students discovered the history of Mi'Kmaq quill work and other crafts including the process of harvesting and the creation of traditional crafts.

Following the creation of the traditional craft, student had the opportunity to work on a creation of their own by developing a unique original of their own. The original piece created by the students was given as a gift to the Abegweit First Nation Chief as an offering of their knowledge acquired during this project.

91% of the students agreed that they learned a lot about the culture of my community/heritage during this learning experience.

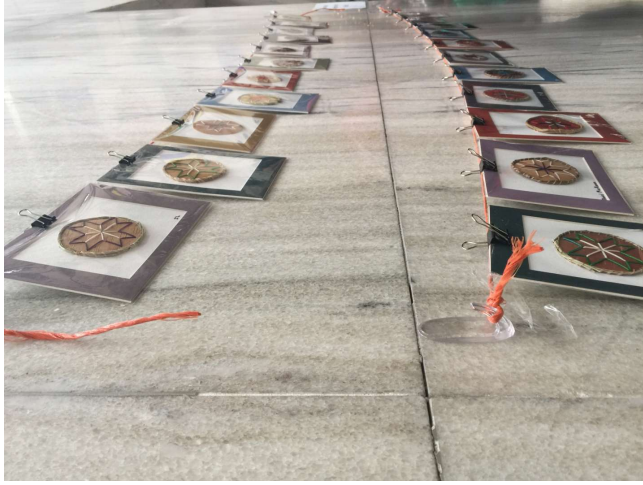
100% of parents indicated that all learners should have the chance to do this type of learning experience.

Engaging my son in subjects can be difficult at times but he was excited and eager to participate in this one... Parent Montague Regional High School

My daughter was very excited to tell me about her new learning experience. She loved it and says she would love to do it again... Parent Montague Regional High School

I hope this type of learning can be incorporated in the system... Parent Montague Regional High School

Through the ArtsSmarts program we were able to get more engaged and interested about learning about reconciliation and Aboriginal culture. It was a really special and unique experience that never would have been possible without ArtsSmarts. ...Student Montague Regional High School



Eliot River Consolidated School

Name of Project: Experiencing Core French using Art
Name of Teacher(s): Janice Corney and Margo Campbell
Name of Artist(s): Maurice Bernard
Number of learners and grade level: 130 grade 6 learners

Curriculum link explored during this experience included:
Language Arts

The learners were introduced to song and art to enhance the experience of learning a new language through powerful tools to ignite and to enrich the curriculum. By teaching through a different medium student were exposed to a rich cultural experience by the introduction to various French singer/songwriters.

In their Google Classroom each class presented two songs from which one will be chosen to be illustrated. The learners then breakdown the song by learning new vocabulary and exploring the meaning and purpose of each song selected.

Illustrations/ art pieces depicting the songs demonstrated the learning, understanding and interpretation of a new song and new vocabulary. These illustrations were grouped together to create an iMovie which interpreted the song through illustration/art.

It was a whole new experience Student Eliot River Elementary School.

I had lots of fun in the ArtsSmarts program it was a great way to discover French.... Student Eliot River Elementary School

Je pensais que le programme ArtsSmarts était génial, et j'espere que nous pourrons le faire l'année prochaine parce que c'était vraiment amusant de travailler avec un vrai artiste, et d'apprendre la langue du français à travers l'art! Student Eliot River Elementary School

ArtsSmarts is really fun and I learned how to do more than I thought I could do... Student Eliot River Elementary School

108 Learners participated in the Learners Survey

46% of the students indicated that they had never worked with an artist before.

56% of the students indicated that they found it easier to learn about the school subject (French) using an art project like we did in ArtsSmarts.



Queen Charlotte Intermediate School

Name of Project: A Creative Collaboration of Mathematics and Arts
Name of Teacher(s): Kara Whitnell
Name of Artist(s): Linda Packard
Number of learners and grade level: 42 grade 8 learners

Various curriculum links explored during this experience included:
Math, Visual Arts, Language Arts and Social Studies

Math conventions were used by learners to create Escher-Styled tessellations and flexible glass structures using mathematical shapes and a range of artistic techniques to form a creative collaboration of mathematics and arts.

Relating to Escher's works learners took into consideration a range of mathematical techniques, conventions and elements to produce a preliminary work with paper and water-colour defining their tessellations. A final work of shapes created by flexible glass structures were displayed in Queen Charlotte Intermediate School for all to enjoy. Through this exercise learners reflected on the process by looking for the math connections.



I was always impressed to hear the learners share what they had learned and how they would implement this in their report. This project had a very positive impact on my students. They were excited to come to class which was evident when they would run into my room in the morning. I had one parent contact me to say that her daughter could not under any circumstance, miss a math class because she loved the project we were working on. This project permitted me to see so many students through a different lens. I was able to see how creative they could be as well as how focused they could be. The project allowed me to interact in new and meaningful ways with students – especially the ones who don't always seem to enjoy pure mathematics. My students were proud of their work and so was I.....
Teacher Queen Charlotte Intermediate.

West Royalty Elementary School

Name of Project: Canada then and Now: A Cultural Discovery
Name of Teacher(s): Elizabeth Crawford
Name of Artist(s): Julia Sauve, Julie Pellessier-Lush and Gary Torlone
Number of learners and grade level: 70 grade 6 learners

Various curriculum links explored during this experience included:
Language Arts, Math, Science, Social Studies and Health

Learners worked with a Mi'Kmaq elders to explore Indigenous history and then created and published a book of legends, incorporating themes of their personal heritage. From the collection of Legends learners worked with Gary Torlone to create Totem poles reflecting their legends. A final narrated, musical and artistic dramatization of Indigenous legends was presented in a black light theatre, highlighting Indigenous symbols and legends. Students worked with choreographer Julia Sauvé and Julie Pellisier-Lush to combine artistic impression with forms of Indigenous dance movements across Canada.

The project was received extremely well by participating teachers who felt that the writing skills, artwork and understanding of Canadian past heritage, were some of the most significant gains they had observed over all their years in teaching.

The program made a difference in student engagement with learning outcomes, improved writing skills, risk taking, confidence with art, student connection and understanding First Nations' culture.

The project had the greatest impact on students who struggle with academics in school. They were so proud of their published writing, artwork and performance in the black light show. They felt that their work was worthy and valuable and demonstrated the confidence to share and discuss their work with others.

I strongly believe that the ArtsSmarts program should be continued and accessible to teachers and students, excellent student engagement...Teacher West Royalty Elementary School.

I did ArtsSmarts and I loved it. I danced and the dances were really fun. It was awesome to write the legends and felt like I improved because of the program. I didn't think I could be creative in a drawing, but I am.... Student West Royalty Elementary School.

We did a lot of cool stuff like creating totem poles and writing legends. My favorite part was the smudging ceremony... Student West Royalty Elementary School

I looked forward to ArtsSmarts, I felt good about myself because I got constructive feedback... Student West Royalty Elementary School

It's a good learning activity that is very fun and unique... Student West Royalty Elementary School

Tell your teacher about ArtsSmarts, it's a program that help you learn about all subjects in a creative, fun way... Student West Royalty Elementary School

The ArtsSmarts program was an amazing experience; I hope they will continue it... Student West Royalty Elementary School

I got to write a legend and make a legend pole. I also learned about the Mi'kmaq...I think ArtsSmarts should be in all schools...Student West Royalty Elementary School



47 Learners participated in the Learners Survey

83% of learners indicated that the ArtsSmarts learning experience helped them discover their own creativity within.

83% of learners indicated that they found it easier to acquire subjects (math, science, language arts) using an arts project like they did in ArtsSmarts.

21 Parents participated in the Parent Survey

91% of parents indicated that all learners should have the chance to do this type of learning experience.

100% of parents indicated that their child benefitted from using the hands on approach to learning.

Eliot River Consolidated School

Name of Project: Investigating Past Societies - Shields

Name of Teacher(s): Darwin Woods

Name of Artist(s): Linda Packard

Number of learners and grade level: 20 grade 5 learners

Various curriculum links explored during this experience included:

Social Studies, Math, Visual Arts, Language Arts and Music

Through this learning experience learners explored the art of Heraldry and Family Coat of Arms and its importance for the histories of families and rulers during the Middle Ages and beyond. Following the acquisition of new understanding on the symbolism and their representation of Heraldry and Family Coat of Arts, learners designed their own life-sized shield depicting their personal coat of arms graphic. The shields were created with recyclable products. Following the completion of the shields the classroom will be set up to look like a museum displaying the learner's shields in a middle age atmosphere for fellow students and parents to explore and discover the learner's heritage.

Student engagement was high as they designed and began to construct and paint their shields, The students were extremely proud of their work, and often told their parents what was going on. Conversely, we had almost 100% attendance when we invited the parents to come see our completed projects. It is amazing how much a simple idea can open so many doors for all involved. I encourage all teachers to put the effort into applying, as there are many spin-offs and benefits for our classroom programming. Teacher Eliot River



LM Montgomery School

Name of Project: Celebration of Lucy Maude Montgomery

Name of Teacher(s): Denise MacDonald

Name of Artist(s): Maurice Bernard

Number of learners and grade level: 68 grade 5 and 6 learners

Various curriculum links explored during this experience included:

Language Arts, Visual Arts, Social Studies and Health

Learners worked with Maurice Bernard to create a four panel Lucy Maud Montgomery theme trompe-l'œil to honor Prince Edward Island's prolific authors on her provincial, national and international contributions. Following the various readings learners were expected to visualize the scenes and different aspects of the book. Using the author's descriptive books learners used them as mentor texts to develop their own writing. Having acquired greater knowledge in the various aspects of the era in which the books were written, learners created a visual representation of their learning.

Students gained a new appreciation and understanding of LM Montgomery. The program made a difference because they have a better understanding of their school name and they made a contribution to their school and their community. It has broadened their knowledge of the arts and they had the opportunity to be creative and express themselves. For many they stepped outside of their comfort zone and were able to do something they could be proud of. The project affected the entire school population as well because everyone became engrossed in the school's namesake and were able to participate in a school wide celebration. The students thought it was amazing to meet and listen to LM Montgomery's granddaughter speak about her grandmother. Teacher LM Montgomery

I liked doing ArtsSmarts because it was really fun. I've always wanted to work with Maurice Bernard and now I have. I used to hate painting because I wasn't good, but now I love it because I am good at it... Thank you - LM Montgomery Student

I think the ArtsSmarts project is a really fun opportunity for students in the higher grades who don't do that much art in school. It shows how we can be creative and interact with art in a special way. Also I feel really lucky to do art with such a famous artist and have him reach us. LM Montgomery Student

Great idea, she loved it and talked about it. They learn better by hands on! LM Montgomery Parent

The ArtsSmarts project has been talked about a lot at home in such a positive way. It has given my child a sense of pride that has never been shown before when it comes to art. This should continue! LM Montgomery Parent.

I believe this is a good way to give the children a new perspective on learning! LM Montgomery Parent

Watching the student's confidence soar makes this project worthwhile... Teacher LM Montgomery

38 Parents participated in the Parents Survey

90% of parents indicated that their child discussed the learning experience a lot at home.

92 % of the parents indicated that all learners should have a chance to do this type of learning experience.

58 Learners participated in the Learners Survey

80% of learners indicated that the learning experience helped them discover their own creativity within

86 % of learners indicated that it is really important for my community to have a creative learning experience through the arts.

Dave Stewart (dave.stewart@theguardian.pe.ca)

Published: Jun 25 at 5:22 p.m.

Updated: Jun 25 at 5:40 p.m.



Rylee Lyons, left, a Grade 5 student at L.M. Montgomery Elementary School, shows Kate Macdonald Butler, centre, granddaughter of Lucy Maud Montgomery, and Elizabeth Epperly, co-founder of the L.M. Montgomery Institute at UPEI, some of the paintings students at the school did to celebrate Montgomery's work. The paintings are part of an Art Smarts project at the school to coincide with the 25th anniversary of the institute at UPEI. - Dave Stewart

Eliot River Elementary School

Name of Project: Illuminating da Vinci, and Intervention
Name of Teacher(s): Leslie MacDonald and Bryan Bradley
Name of Artist(s): Terry Dunton Stevenson
Number of learners and grade level: 57 grade 6 French Immersion learners

Various curriculum links explored during this experience included:
French Language Arts, Technology and Visual Arts

Learners from Eliot River Elementary School stepped back in time and discovered/studied the ingenious invention drawings by Leonardo da Vinci's.

Following an in depth study of da Vinci's inventions, learners became inventors and sketched their own invention on parchment paper using conté, just as would have been utilized by da Vinci. Learners investigated inventions sculptures created by artist of the Steampunk contemporary art movement.

As da Vinci did, learners worked with the artist to create 3D sculpture of their original inventions. Using a mixed media of paper, wire, sculpey clay and other found objects, inventions were published in a promotional brochure. Learners created promotional text advertisements.

The project culminated with an Invention Convention where learners shared their artistic creations.



Each of our 57 students invented an original creation which spoke to a need each of them saw in our world. They found inspirations in da Vinci's drawings, particularly those of his inventions.

The students built up their confidence and learned how the creative process is helpful for inventors from their initial conté sketches to adding the final, finishing details on their model.

Mr. Bradley created a blog in order to showcase the entire process. By doing so, all of the parents of our 57 students had access to the project as it took shape from the introductory lessons and skill building to the final invention and advertisements on display... It was a delight to see the student engagement on a daily basis when the artist was in our classroom.

These projects completely confirms for me the incredible power of art in terms of teaching students how to concentrate, use their imagination and receive a tremendous amount of joy from living in the moment while being completely focused on the artwork in front of them.
Teacher Eliot River Elementary School

ArtsSmarts is a wonderful program and I hope it continues for many years. Students are engaged and encouraged to work with their hands which has become less and less in recent years.... Artist Eliot River Elementary School

The atmosphere in my classroom was both respectful and enriched through the power of creativity....Teacher Eliot River Elementary School

The ArtsSmarts project was really fun and we got to learn about Leonardo da Vinci and use materials that we didn't know about. We also learned how to invent things in a more complex way and even how you would market an invention.... Student Eliot River Elementary School

I had lots of fun doing the ArtsSmarts project and I learned a lot about colour, line, shape, volume and tons more. I think everyone else in my class really enjoyed doing the project too! Hopefully every child on PEI will have a chance to do this fun project. ...Student Eliot River Elementary School

The most exciting part was making and thing about inventions!.... Student Eliot River Elementary School

I had a great time constructing my invention. This is one of the first times I've had a hands on experience like this... Student Eliot River Elementary School.

My child enjoyed working on his Everything Chair. A great experience that every student should have... thanks ArtsSmarts...Parent Eliot River Elementary School.

53 Learners participated in the Learners Survey

72% of the students indicated that the ArtsSmarts Learning experience helped them discover their own creativity

87% of the students indicated that it is really important for my community to have creative learning experiences through the arts.

31 Parents participated in the Learners Survey

87% of the parents indicated that their child benefitted from using the hands on approach to learning.

94% of the parents indicated that all learners should have the chance to do this type of learning experience.

East Wiltshire School

Name of Project: The Wonder Women
Name of Teacher(s): Jody MacDonald
Name of Artist(s): Adam Perry
Number of learners and grade level: 5 grade 9 to 10 learners

Various curriculum links explored during this experience included:
Language Arts, Technology and Math

In this project, learners were introduced to the making of a high quality television commercial by experiencing the networking, which needs to take place in the media industry when trying to sell a creative thought. Learners also experienced the how-tos of this industry in order to have their ideas produced into a visual and audio medium. From acting, directing and editing using professional equipment student produced a 30 second commercial on the importance of blood donations and how it is in you to give.

“When we had to pick a project to support and spread awareness about, we thought that this would be the perfect opportunity and it would be a really good cause, because obviously blood donation is something serious that everyone needs to take part in if they’re eligible to do so.....
Teacher East Wiltshire School

There is no medicine that can replace blood donation, so it’s essential that everyone should be doing this if they can...Student East Wiltshire School

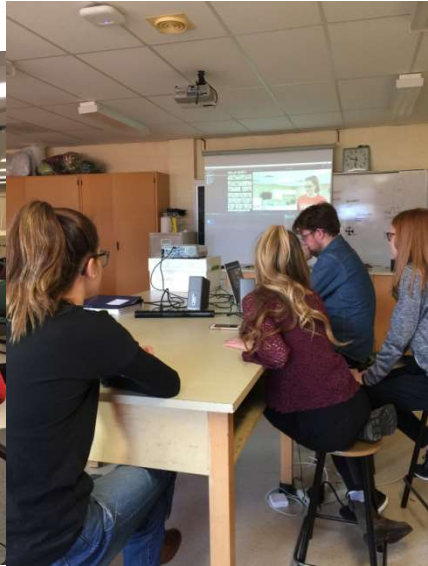
Blood Services Canada says the work the students have done so far has earned them the spot as the youngest and most successful volunteer group in the Maritimes... Teacher East Wiltshire School

The students went into their community to bring people to the clinic, all the while asking everyone they met to fill out surveys about why they chose to donate, or why they didn't. Students also interviewed teachers during the Annual Prince Edward Island’s Teachers Federation Conference in October 2017 to encourage people to give blood.

The surveys were a source of inspiration to create the commercial, to serve as a reminder to Islanders that even one blood donation can make a big difference...Student East Wiltshire School.

Blood it is in you to give...I will give life.

Visit blood.ca or call 1-888-2-DONATE (236-6283) to book an appointment.



Prince Edward Island's Culture Action Plan
Learning through the arts....It is possible here on the Mighty Island

Students from across PEI use the ArtsSmarts program to create a diverse range of learning experiences that directly link the creative process to their class curriculum outcomes.

As a newcomer to Canada and an educator, I found it extremely important to study and find out about Canada's First Nations People. I was shocked by the terrible treatment of the indigenous people of this wonderful country and I knew that I wanted to study this further with students who are the next generation to ensure that we learn from our mistakes and become accepting of all.... Teacher Montague Regional High School

Through the ArtsSmarts program we were able to get more engaged and interested about learning about reconciliation and Aboriginal culture. It was a really special and unique experience that never would have been possible without ArtsSmarts... Student Montague Regional High School





Thank you to:

La Commission scolaire de langue française and the English Language Schools Board
The Eptek and the Confederation Centre of the Arts Gallery for their continued dedication to showcase the learners work in the annual exhibits and special events.
The teachers and the University of Prince Edward Island pre-service teachers who carried out their projects with great success.
The teachers and the artist who have respected their commitments and shared their knowledge during the ArtsSmarts Program
The various businesses and organizations who have contributed to the ArtsSmarts Program
The Prince Edward Island Human Rights Commission.
The University of Prince Edward Island
The Residential School Survivors who shared their experiences with the students.
The Fédération culturelle de l'Île-du-Prince-Édouard.
The Aboriginal artists who shared their culture and knowledge
The Lennox Island School Staff and Students for the excellent performances
The Abegweit First Nations Band office for the loan of their facility for filming