



Creativity can be defined as the use of imagination or original ideas. As far as brain functioning is concerned, creative thinking, problem solving, and reasoning are processes that are closely related and highly complex. At Cascade Canyon School we believe that the nurturing of a child's creative core is fundamental to their academic, social, and emotional success and well-being. This belief is supported by an ever-growing body of educational and scientific research. According to the ASCD (Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development) a student's participation in the arts "can actually boost student achievement in other academic areas". For example, music, drama, and media arts have been suggested as leading to higher achievement in reading and writing. Music training supports second language learning and math achievement. Additionally, research findings show that even in schools with high populations of at-risk students, those who experience arts integrated curriculum either meet or exceed academic standards. Many other studies have linked arts education to improvements in:

- Overall cognition
- Growth mindset
- Self-regulation
- Engagement
- Motivation
- Self awareness, self-expression, self-sufficiency, and self-confidence
- Memory and motion processing
- Visual discrimination
- Sustained focus
- Observational skills
- Communication of decision-making processes
- Cultural understanding

A great link to learn even more: <https://www.edutopia.org/arts-integration-resources>