



BITESIZED



Literacy/Numeracy Tidbits for the Classroom

Did you know...

"Science, stripped of the complicated vocabulary and laws, is the process of observing reality as accurately as we can and explaining what we have observed as clearly as we can." (Selim Tlili, 2025)

...that **sketching** can sharpen your observation skills and help you see things more clearly? When we casually look at something, our brains often rush to fill in the blanks using what we expect to see, rather than what's actually there. But when we take the time to sketch, (like 10-15min.) our eyes and brain slow down, allowing us to **notice small details** we might otherwise miss.

Drawing & sketching in classes other than art, can have many benefits.

- It encourages creative thinking.
- It welcomes diverse perspectives.
- It fosters discussions.
- Improves memory/recall better than reading and writing as it engages multiple skills (visual, kinesthetic, semantic...)
- It builds **patience and focus** when done repetitively over time.
- It provides feedback to teachers on what kids actually understand.
- It accommodates diverse learners.

Why not try...

Here are a some ways you can integrate sketching in your classrooms!

1. In **Science**, why not try making flip books? Have students sketch the growth of a plant for example over a period of time.
2. In **Humanities**, why not try the LSD strategy? (**Listen, Sketch, Describe**) Choose a piece of text like a short story or children's book and have students listen to a passage, ask them to draw something related to the passage and then answer a question on the passage to show understanding. You can do this multiple times with longer text.
3. In **new language** classes, pair students and give student A a picture to describe to student B. Student B listens and sketches what they are hearing. We have fun Dixit cards in the library you can borrow if looking for something fun to draw.
4. In **Art class**, bring in a bowl of popcorn and have students choose one, draw it and put it back in the bowl and try to find it again. Puzzle pieces work as well!

Check out this **Teacher Resource in the LLC** or go this [link](#) for more ideas on sketching.

