

Project IMPACT in Elementary Schools

Teachers in Howard County, Maryland, are finding that Project IMPACT can be successfully adapted for improving the critical thinking skills of elementary students.

Elementary teachers in Howard County, Maryland, are using Lee Winocur's Project IMPACT to incorporate critical thinking skills into their teaching. Although Project IMPACT was originally designed for remedial junior high students, the elementary teachers and administrators have successfully adapted it for their students in grades 2-5.

We began the project with training for the teachers and administrators in the pilot school, Running Brook Elementary. After training, the teachers revised the Project IMPACT materials, making them age-appropriate for their

students. Next, teachers in grades 3-5 were organized into teams to identify critical thinking skills for their grades.

The Project IMPACT materials teach 22 critical thinking skills, 10 teaching behaviors, and a lesson plan design using many components of mastery teaching. A typical IMPACT lesson includes direct teaching of a critical thinking skill followed by opportunities for the students to apply the skill in language arts, science, or social studies. For example, an introductory lesson on "cause and effect" can be followed by using a graphic organizer to visualize causes and effects of inap-

propriate school behavior, or of the actions of a character in a story, or of an earthquake in California, or the American Revolution.

We have high expectations for the academic success of our students, and Project IMPACT helps us remain on the cutting edge. As we integrate content with critical thinking skills, we are discovering new ways to help students understand, question, and remember content material. □

Jacqueline P. Shulik is Social Studies Supervisor, Howard County Public School System, 10910 Route 108, Ellicott City, MD 21043.

Introducing a comprehensive, discipline-based art program



Learning to Look and Create

THE SPECTRA ART PROGRAM by Kay Alexander



DALE SEYMOUR PUBLICATIONS

P.O. Box 10888, Palo Alto, CA 94303
(800) USA-1100 (outside Calif.) or
(800) ABC-0766 (inside Calif.)

Here's the first comprehensive art program for grades 1-6 that can be taught effectively by both classroom teachers and art specialists. SPECTRA combines the study of fine art with opportunities for creative expression. A binder for each grade level provides everything needed for a full year's art curriculum:

- full scope and sequence
- 30 or more sequential lessons, incorporating the most up-to-date concepts of discipline-based art education
- extensive teaching notes and scripts
- suggestions for lessons across the curriculum
- 80 color slides providing all necessary visual resources.

Write or call us today for a free color brochure and sample lessons.

Copyright © 1988 by the Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development. All rights reserved.