



Draft Design Summary

Harmonic *STREAM* | out of the box immersive learning experiences

Overview

Scientific research provides solid evidence that listening to music can boost students' cognitive skills, which in turn helps them excel at a wide range of academic subjects (Publishing, Harvard Health, 2019).

As a musician and instructor, I empathize with seasoned teachers who understand that listening to music in the classroom can improve academic performance and the overall quality of general education curriculums.

My infographic will display easy to follow facts about the benefits of listening to music with the intent to create a 21st Century classroom aimed to spark imagination while also teaching cultural awareness and tolerance through music listening and appreciation. Teachers do not need to have a music background to implement music listening strategies.

Setting | Mise en Scène and Major Characters

Please tell the story about why you want to create this presentation/ infographic:

- Who is the presentation / infographic for?

This infographic is for elementary and middle school teachers.

- What content will the presentation / infographic cover?

Easy to follow research supported facts regarding the benefits of listening to music in the classroom.

- Where and when will the infographic be used?

This infographic is part of a larger scale project I'm developing as an educational product I intend to launch upon completion of my ILT studies.



Plot | INSTRUCTIONAL GOALS

Identify, analyze, and discuss the cognitive and social benefits of implementing “turn-key” music infused solutions in the classrooms.

Identify, analyze, and discuss how to transform classrooms into 21st Century learning spaces by implementing easy to follow music infused micro-lessons designed to spark imagination in the classroom while also teaching students about cultural awareness/tolerance through world music.

Identify, analyze, and discuss the transformation of existing general education classroom instruction into innovative learning experiences aimed to boost student confidence, imagination and appreciation for other cultures through the power of music.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Learners will be able to describe effective learning solutions and benefits through the use of playing music in the classroom.

Learners will be able to create a classroom environment that sparks confidence, imagination and cultural awareness while boosting students’ cognitive abilities.

Design Solution Outcome

Instructional Strategies

- Help elementary and middle school teachers (“Learners”) understand and appreciate the value and power of listening to culturally infused music.
- Help Learners understand the cognitive and social benefits of listening to music in the classroom.
- Transform general education classroom instruction into an innovative active learning experience aimed to boost confidence, imagination and appreciation of culture through the power of music.

Presentation Format

Based on the valuable peer feedback I received along with a careful review of other draft submissions, I decided to start with a fresh canvas to create a stronger more dynamic layout for my infographic. While it took additional time, I’m pleased with the



Draft Design Summary by Monica Avila Beal

end result which I believe makes the content presented in the draft version more interesting and pleasing to the eye.

Guided by the Infographic Design Guidelines and careful review of Stanton & LaGesse's *Superpowers of Visual Storytelling*, this Infographic contains compare and contrast visual representation in a section called "The Mozart Effect" that consists of graphs along with scientific research backed facts aimed at creating an infographic rich in interesting instructional value. Also, in an effort to connect with the viewer I used a stock photo of students to create a visual hook. Once again taking cues from Stanton & LaGesse on how to turn ideas from blah into ah!

This infographic was also guided by the CARP principles of design as follows:

Contrast – Through careful choice of color selection and use of interesting typography and bold text, I was able to ensure that my infographic maintains a consistent eye pleasing contrast.

Alignment – Each section is visually connected to each other to achieve a logical flow that results in a cohesive, modern and clean look.

Repetition – This element is achieved by the repeated use of color hues and typography and complimentary graphics.

Proximity – An example of this design element can be seen in the layout of the graphic placed at the upper left-hand corner used to signal each of the 5 steps.

Preview | Formative Feedback

- How can I create more impact so people will know at first glance the goal/purpose of my infographic?

Midway through working on my draft, I sensed something was missing but proceeded to continue working with my initial layout choice. As the deadline approached and after reviewing peer feedback, I came to realize that in order to create more impact, a new layout format would be needed.

- My infographic contains a compare/contrast element although I realize the final version should include more statistical data. How can I include more data without throwing the balance off with my current minimalist layout?

I realized this section needed to be stronger and so I decided to spend a little more time conducting research on the benefits of listening to music in the classroom. Much to my delight, I found a number of credible sources about this niche area in music education. In addition, I added a new bar graph section to introduce statistical data.



- My infographic consists of 5 separate panels. What sections appear to be out of synch with the CARP principles of contrast and alignment?

Once again, by starting over with a fresh canvas, I found it much easier to ensure that my layout was more in synch with the CARP principles of contrast and alignment by focusing on using complimentary colors in soothing hues and bold typography.

Epilogue

As with the Design Solution project, creating a well-designed professional looking infographic is way harder than it looks! Upon personal reflection, I've learned that much of my initial time was spent trying to make a mediocre layout work. I've come to realize that I should have listened to my gut early on about needing to start over with a different layout rather than spinning my wheels trying to make something mediocre appear interesting. Upon reviewing peer feedback, I decided to spend some time carefully looking through other drafts submitted by my peers along with reviewing the Infographic resources provided by our class instructor. Finally, I spent a little time reviewing the infographic samples posted on Pinterest and became inspired to try a new layout. As they say, practice makes progress! In this course, it seems I've spent far more time practicing than producing but nevertheless the experience has been valuable.

Bibliography

Stanton, L., & Lagesse, D. (2018). *Superpowers of visual storytelling*. LaVidoCo Communications.

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Project Checklist

Completed?	Project Element
+	Rich with instructional value and designed to help learners achieve learning objectives
+	Adheres to <i>Our Infographic Design Guidelines</i>
+	Follows the CARP design recommendations
+	Contains a substantial amount of interesting, emotional, and humanistic statistics (provides data which can best be understood visually and which might otherwise be challenging to grasp without seeing your infographic)
+	Contains one of the following four visual infographic elements : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● mapped/annotated picture or diagram ● compare-and-contrast representation ● visual representation of an instructional sequence ● chronological, genealogical, or hierarchical representation
+	Reflects revisions based on peer reviews and instructor feedback