Experiential learning through the arts can provide engaging and authentic opportunities for students to construct meaning and develop language. In contrast to instruction that relies heavily on traditional print-text, the arts can broaden opportunities for (all kids but especially) multilingual learners to absorb concepts, process ideas, and express their learning.

EXPOSURE TO THE ARTS
- Provides non-print texts to enhance understanding of an idea
- Develops multiple literacies which can inform and expand students’ communicative repertoire
- Artists and art forms representing the heritages and interests of students help them see themselves reflected in the curriculum

ART MAKING
- Creates a low stress space for learning and demonstrating talents without so much dependence on language
- Amplifies options for expression
- Becomes a natural scaffold for learning
- Collaborative art forms & processes provide natural opportunities to interact and practice language with peers

LEARNING VIA THE ARTS
Art can function as a means to reach academic goals in at least three ways:
- Serves as a text to convey a concept
- Acts as a medium for students to connect to and experience a concept
- Provides a form for a student to demonstrate their learning of a concept

YOU CAN...
- Cultivate your own artistic talents
- Build your knowledge of students’ cultures and interests
- Seek opportunities in curricula to integrate the arts
- Plan collaborations with arts education partners

for Multilingual Learners and everyone