



Chicago Arts Partnerships in Education

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CAPE Documentation Approach/Process

Modeled on the Reggio Emilia documentation methods, CAPE trains teachers and artists to work as teams to develop action research inquiry questions about their teaching, and to document methods, processes and products through a variety of media to investigate their inquiry question.

CAPE partners are expected to present their documentation publicly at CAPE's annual curriculum inquiry fair.

What is documented:

methods, processes and products:

- _____ Teacher- artist planning
- _____ Student composing and creating, revising and refining
- _____ Student performing and presenting
- _____ Student questions
- _____ Student reflections on their own and each others' work

How it is documented:

media:

- _____ Transcriptions of conversations
- _____ Journal and email entries
- _____ Student drawings of teaching processes
- _____ Audio of student, teacher, and artist reflection and analysis
- _____ Video of reflection sessions, works in progress, final products
- _____ Photography of works in progress, final products
- _____ Student work
- _____ Teacher and artist planning documents

What is Reggio Emilia?

The Reggio Emilia Approach is:

- Based on **emergent curriculum** is one that builds upon the interests of children.
- **Project work**, also emergent, that are in-depth studies of concepts, ideas, and interests which arise within the group.
- A **Representational Development** approach that calls for the integration of the graphic arts as tools for cognitive, linguistic, and social development.
- **Collaborative** group work, both large and small, is considered valuable and necessary to advance cognitive development.

- Recognizes and promotes **Teachers as Researchers**, where the teacher is first and foremost to be that of a learner alongside the children. The teacher is a teacher-researcher, a resource and guide as she/he lends expertise to children.
- **Documentation** of children's work in progress is viewed as an important tool in the learning process for children, teachers, and parents.
- **Environment** is considered the "third teacher." Great attention is given to the look and feel of the classroom.

For more information on the Reggio Emilia Approach please visit these sites:

["The Reggio Approach"](http://www.cmu.edu/cyert-center/rea.htm) (<http://www.cmu.edu/cyert-center/rea.htm>)

[Useful Reggio Approach Links](http://www.latelier.org/usefullinks/) (<http://www.latelier.org/usefullinks/>)

[The Hundred Languages of Children Book](http://www.edu-books.com/The_Hundred_Languages_of_Children_The_Reggio_Emilia_Approach_Advanced_Reflections_Second_Edition_156750311X.html)

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