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The Importance of Experiences in the Learning Process

In an experience-based society people prefer those kinds of activities which can provide experiences a flow insights. It is well known that all kinds of arts can provide such kinds of experiences independently of whether we are the active artist/creator or the “passive” recipient.

In my presentation I focus on visual art courses which can be divided into 3 models: art therapy, education through art, traditional art courses. The main difference of these models is the importance of the personal development and the development of artistic competences. In formal education we can find the latter, but non-formal and informal learning provides more opportunities for personal development. Nowadays formal education gets more attention because of the changing labour market but we mustn't forget that one of the aims of adult education is personal development.

The learning process is not independent of the person, the previous experiences and emotions. That is why experience-based learning puts emphasis on these and it is necessary to involve the whole personality. My purpose is to identify the previous school and outside-school experiences which drive adults to learn in a non-formal or informal way in this area. Moreover I would like to acquire information about experiences which they gained through these courses and how to stimulate them to continue the learning process.



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