

Ni Chathain, Fionnuala, 2012, *The Effects of Music/Percussion on the Literacy levels of Primary Pupils.*

ABSTRACT

This study examines the use of music / percussion as a literacy initiative throughout a series of lessons. The researcher is assigned as the support teacher to the classes where the study took place. Particular emphasis is placed on a number of pupils in the classes who have specific literacy learning difficulties. The motivation for the research was to see if percussion would have an effect on pupils' literacy.

The pupils were taught a set of percussion lessons for the purpose of this study. The reason for this, was to develop awareness of syllabic beats in words. The methods used, involved testing the pupils in both a spelling word list and a non-reading test at the beginning and end of the study to provide comparative information for improvements. The pupils were interviewed and they also answered a questionnaire. These were examined for information purposes.

This is the first time for such an initiative to be implemented in the school where this study took place. The results of the research were very constructive and favourable.

The implications of this study proved that it was a very worthwhile undertaking. On foot of its finding, the school authorities have decided to incorporate percussion in the teaching of literacy in classes throughout the school in the future.