



Standard 8 Reflection on Sparks Mural Website - Angela Jurgensen

As a soup teacher and believer that things are better combined, I trust finding a way to bring layers of meaning to art is one of the best ways to increase student engagement. Being able to use your art to express something within yourself is one of the most important things an artist can learn. The idea of the Sparks Mural was to help students explore or develop a passion; they had to do an inquiry about their Spark, complete a sketch about it, then paint a tile based on their spark, all the while remaining within the colour and design constraints of the bigger eagle design.

From this project, I decided to create a website, in the hopes that other schools would become interested in it and embrace it themselves. This website gives step-by-step instructions on how to build the mural on any school. It details everything: planning, securing funds, presentation, how to get students engaged and the actual execution of the project. I hope more schools find this site and use the information inside; meanwhile, I am happy to share these ideas with other future teachers. VIU has invited me to present to a class of upcoming teachers and speak to them about this project.

How does your school foster individuality and acceptance?