

**Abstract**

This article is centered around an original poem I created as a response to my own frustrations surrounding the phenomenon of “Zoom teaching” for my first and second grade class. In this paper, I will provide a personal account of Zoom teaching while I incorporated the arts into a reading comprehension activity. Additionally, I have included a literature review which highlights current research related to the nature of Zoom teaching and the benefits of arts integration within reading and writing instruction. My own personal experiences related to the arts are included as part of the reflexive nature of this article for me, as a doctoral student, to shed light on my own attitudes and experiences related to the integration of arts and literacy lessons because this will be the focus of my future dissertation. Finally, I will explain a process I have adapted to integrate the arts and writing. Future research will be necessary to explore the nature of utilizing these approaches to foster student engagement and create a meaningful bridge to literacy for diverse student populations.

*Keywords:* Arts and writing integration, visual arts, arts and reading comprehension, arts and communication, arts and literacy acquisition