Sketchbooks at the Heart of the Art Classroom

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Evolution of the Sketchbook

1. Natural Observation
   Sketchbooks were introduced as a way to hold sketching from nature.

2. Skill Development
   Sketchbooks were viewed as a tool to help develop and practice observational drawing skills.

3. Cognitive Processing
   Sketchbooks became tools to help develop cognitive processes and discovery (coincided with DBAE resurgence).

4. Reflective Processing
   Grauer and Naths introduced “visual journals” and began to use them as reflection tools.

5. Key to Teaching Art
   “Sketchbook,” “visual journal,” and “reflective journal” all used interchangeably as a visual and verbal reflective book, key to the study and teaching of art.

Various Versions

- Altered Book
- Artist Journals
- Sketchbook
- Travel Journals
- Visual Journal
How We Use Them

- Developing Skills
- Experimenting
- Building Community
- Keeping Ideas
- Reflecting

References


