

Hip Hop Pedagogy

How can hip hop be integrated in your lessons and your classroom?



Mini Lesson Objective

This lesson will introduce you to the five fundamental elements of hip hop culture. These five fundamental elements of hip hop culture serve as a powerful pedagogy for engaging your students and for orchestrating the flow of your classroom or learning spaces.



What is Hip Hop?

To begin to appreciate hip hop as a culture it is key to understand the community and the conditions that birthed hip hop.



What is Hip-Hop Pedagogy?

Hip-Hop Pedagogy is the authentic and practical incorporation of hip-hop's creative elements and sensibilities into teaching and learning. This approach to teaching and learning allows students opportunities to make connections between their culture and content and caters to all learners' multiple intelligences.



Levels of Hip Hop Pedagogy Explained

1. The use of hip hop content as curriculum content for your activities.
2. Incorporating the fundamental elements of hip hop (MC, DJ, Dance, Graffiti, and Knowledge of Self) into how your curriculum is taught and how your students share their learning.
3. Discovering the presence of your content area of study present within hip hop culture.



The use of hip hop content as curriculum content for your activities.

This is often the inclusion of songs or videos into your lessons and or activities. This inclusion is often driven by theme and can serve as a way to present content that your students can relate to on a cultural level. This takes a level of knowledge of hip hop music and artists that your students listen to and or relate to.



Incorporating the fundamental elements of hip hop into how your curriculum is taught and how your students share their learning.

This is a shift from hip hop only being the “what” is in your lesson or activity to hip hop being the “how” you teach and engage with your students and how they engage with each other. Take a moment and review [hip hop pedagogy](#) to learn more about the hip hop’s five fundamental elements.

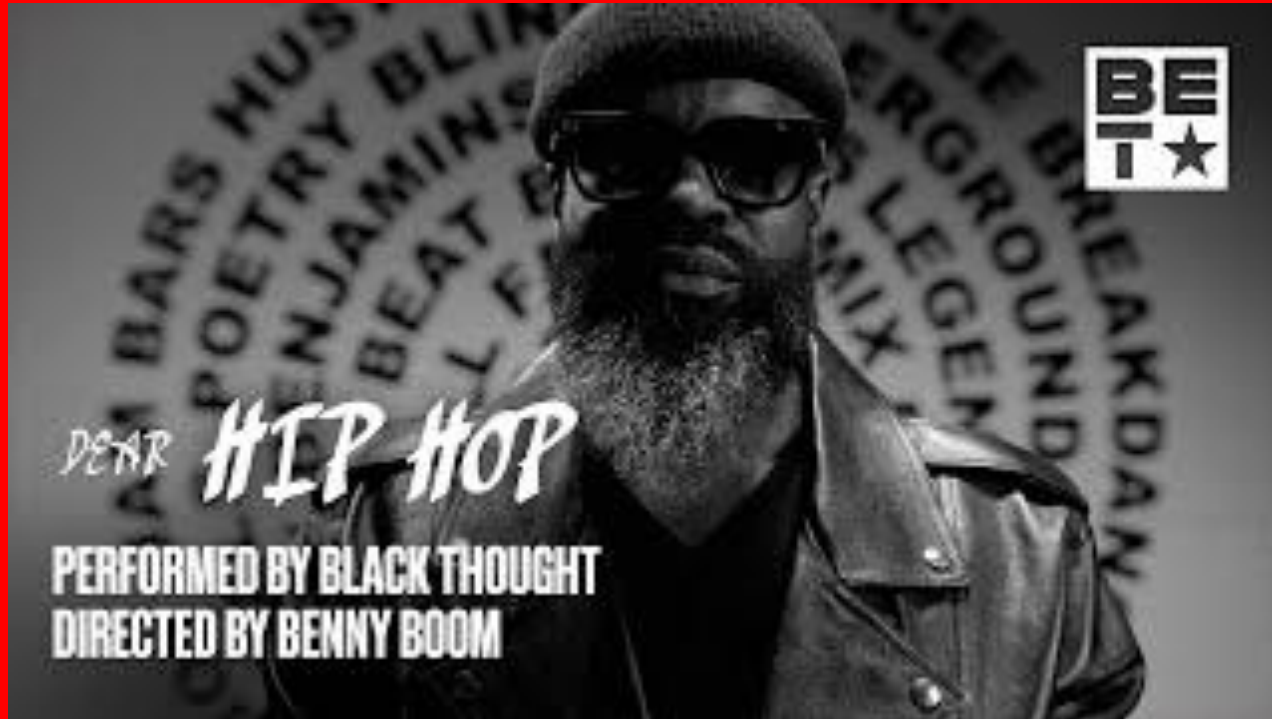


Discovering the presence of your content area of study present within hip hop culture.

Here is where hip hop becomes the context and the content. An example of this level of hip hop pedagogy is as follows: English in MCing, Science in Breakdancing, Math in Graffiti, History in DJing, and SEL in Knowledge of Self.



Black Thought “Ode to Hip Hop”



Watch and listen as Black Thought delivers a poetic salute to the origins, achievements, and aspirations of Hip Hop culture. Think about the pedagogy exemplified in the ways young people were brought together through Hip Hop.

Notes to Educator/Facilitator

As you engage with the lessons on this platform use this lesson as a guide to identify the hip hop pedagogy level being used. Work with your students as you create lessons and activities to try your hand at implementing the levels of hip hop pedagogy.

