

### Choice Assignment: Multiple Intelligences Theory

After learning more deeply about Gardner's Multiple Intelligences Theory (MIT), I found myself invested in learning more about the impact his theories might have on teaching and learning. Given this intrigue, I sought out empirical research on the impact of MIT, and was pleased to find Veli Batdı's report, "The Effect of Multiple Intelligences on Academic Achievement: A Meta-Analytic and Thematic Study." In an effort to more deeply understand MIT, I chose to analyze the results of Batdı's study.

Batdı (2017) studied MIT from two perspectives; a meta-analysis of studies around MIT conducted from 2000 to 2016 as well as a more qualitative approach garnering themes from interviews with students of varying levels of achievement. In summary, study of applying MIT in teaching and learning showed a positive effect size when examined across educational level, subject area, and period of the day (Batdı, 2017). I was particularly fascinated to find that the effect size was largest when applied in primary classrooms and in the social sciences, but regardless of the context, the impact was always found to be positive (Batdı, 2017). Upon examining more qualitative aspects of the study, the report highlighted that "MIT has the potential to enable each student's learning; it attracts students with different activities, provides permanent learning, and reveals different learning potentials" (Batdı, 2017, p. 2082). The major negative finding in Batdı's (2017) research was that teachers, not surprisingly, lack knowledge about effectively applying MIT in their classrooms.

Overall, I was pleased to learn so much about the positive impact of MIT on student achievement. Overall, its positive impact appears undeniable regardless of the age of the students or the subject in which it is applied. Knowing the major issue with MIT is simply a lack of

teachers' understanding on how to effectively implement it in their classrooms, this leads me to want to deepen my own understanding so that I might support the teachers I work with in their use of MIT strategies. I absolutely have developed a newfound investment in continuing my learning on Gardner's Multiple Intelligences Theory.

### References

- Batdı, V. (2017). The Effect of Multiple Intelligences on Academic Achievement: A Meta-Analytic and Thematic Study. *Educational Sciences: Theory & Practice*, 17(6), 2057-2092. doi:10.12738/estp.2017.6.0104.