

Co-operation through free expression

This presentation aims at introducing one of Celestin Freinet's techniques, called "free texts". Freinet Pedagogy, is considered as a complete form of progressive education. As a result, action and production-oriented teaching and learning strategies were developed and shared with people. By employing these teaching and learning strategies, children can actively discover the world and develop themselves in it. Emphasis on expression, communication and co-operation skills is given, so that children can experience democracy, co-sharing their environment with their actions. Free texts also allow students to use their imagination and produce spontaneous texts without being restricted in a specific theme. They begin to write and, little by little, learn how to write. Free text, combined with the school newspaper and correspondence, allows them to rediscover the meaning of written communication and also offers the possibility to co-construct knowledge. Freinet considered these texts to be visual, as well as very important evidence of a manifestation of creativity, imagination, and exploration that is inherent in a child.