



Active Insight: Evidence in Action

Tip #802



Bringing Humanities Learning Into Movement Experiences

Overview

Stories, places and people sit at the heart of Humanities learning. Movement can provide opportunities for students to **step inside historical events, navigate geographical challenges, explore cultural perspectives and examine how communities function.** Students can **experience, represent and investigate concepts through active participation,** helping ideas become more **tangible, memorable and connected to real-world contexts.** These learning experiences can support curiosity, inquiry and a deeper understanding of the world around them.

Key Teaching Ideas

Humanities learning often explores **how people, places, environments and events are connected.** Movement can provide opportunities for students to **represent journeys, investigate communities, model historical events and explore geographical concepts** in active ways. Students can **physically map ideas, explore different perspectives, solve challenges and communicate understanding** through movement experiences. These approaches can help bring **inquiry, exploration and discussion to life** while supporting purposeful connections across Humanities learning.

Practical Application

- **Walk a timeline.** Eg: Students move through significant historical events and explain the importance of each milestone.
- **Become the map.** Eg: Use student positioning and movement to represent locations, landmarks, waterways or geographical features.
- **Follow migration journeys.** Eg: Explore routes, obstacles and decision points that shaped movement and settlement patterns.
- **Investigate perspectives.** Eg: Use movement-based scenarios where students represent different viewpoints, decisions or historical experiences.
- **Explore communities in action.** Eg: Assign roles that demonstrate how people, services and organisations contribute to community life.

Next Steps

Explore the [Active Education Australia Resources](#) to support movement-based learning across Humanities and other learning areas.

