Popular Media and Social-Emotional Learning

How Popular Media can Improve SEL Teaching in the Classroom

ClassHook

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Summary

The use and application of popular media such as movies and television shows provides teachers with the opportunity to effectively increase engagement and retention in academic lessons.
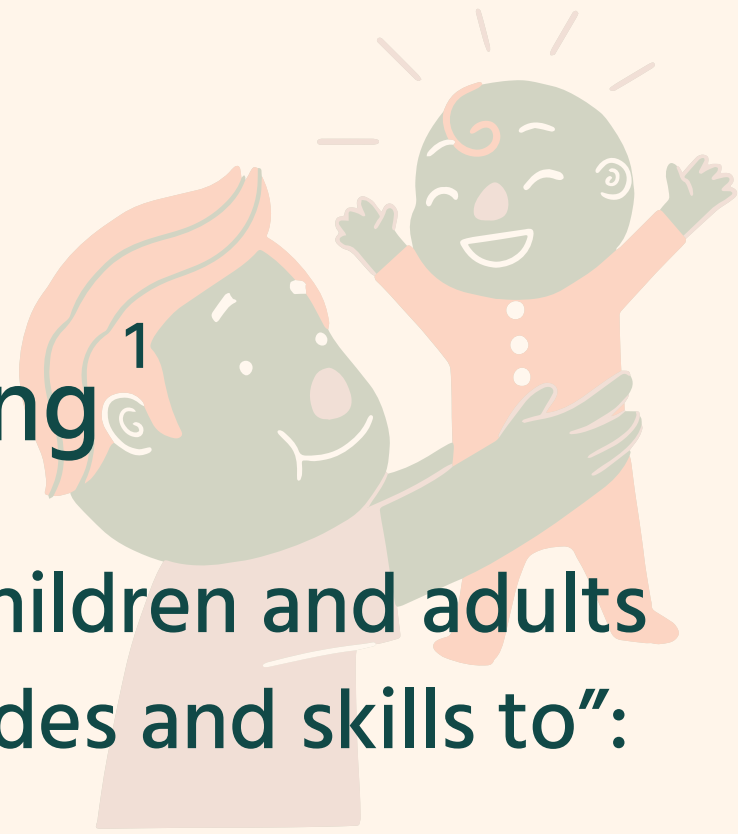
"Because there are countless movies based on an infinite amount of things, you can use them to introduce or spark discussions about a certain topic, be it a historical event, a time period or the culture of a foreign country."[2]

Social Emotional Learning [1]

"The process through which children and adults acquire the knowledge, attitudes and skills to":

- Recognize and manage their emotions
- Set and achieve positive goals
- Demonstrate caring and concern for others
- Establish and maintain positive relationships
- Make responsible decisions
- Handle interpersonal situations effectively

Young people are using the Internet and research is showing that there can be benefits for social skills development and social emotional learning. [4]

Benefits of SEL [5]

- SEL reduces poverty and improves economic mobility.

- SEL can influence positive behaviors up to 18 years later on:
  - academics
  - misconduct
  - emotional distress
  - drug use

SEL helps students expand on:
- Self-awareness
- Self-management
- Social awareness
- Relationship skills
- Responsible decision-making

Utilizing Popular Media to Teach

Popular media is the audiovisual version of storytelling. Narratives have emotions associated with them, which makes it a great foundation for understanding concepts.[1]

Retention:

Movie experiences act like emotional memories for building opinions and keeping them as reflective reference in their daily activities.[8]

Building Soft Skills:

Popular media also expands on teachings of realistic and probable events. In fields like medicine, having popular media in classrooms helps students take a more humanistic and compassionate approach to care.[9]
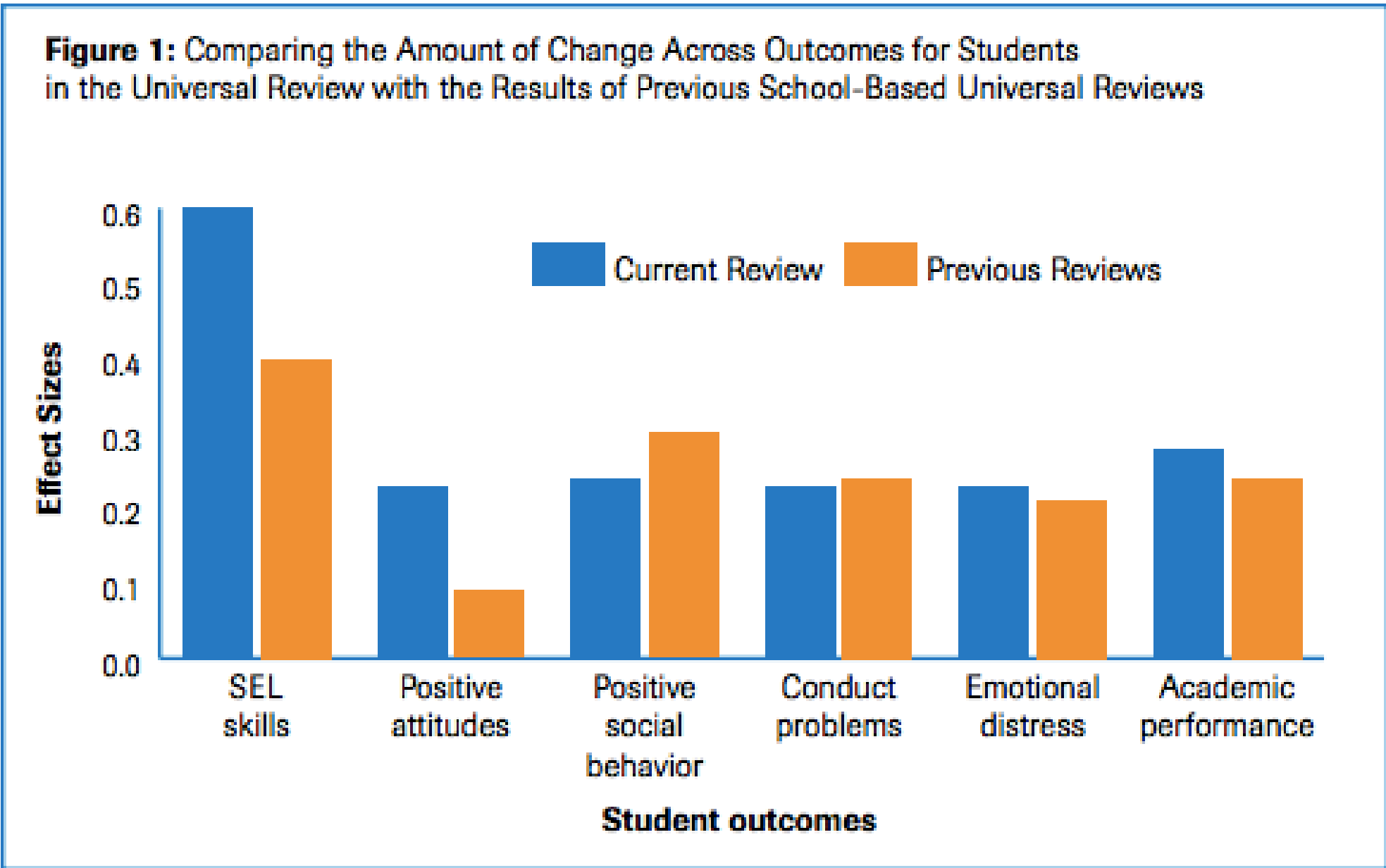
Teach Media Literacy:

Analyzing popular media for educational moments and arguments helps students think more critically.

SEL Statistics [1]

- "SEL programs improved students' achievement test scores by 11 to 17 percentile points."

Figure 1: Comparing the Amount of Change Across Outcomes for Students in the Universal Review with the Results of Previous School-Based Universal Reviews

The Positive Impact of Social and Emotional Learning for Kindergarten to 8th-Grade Students

Popular Media as a Learning Tool

Learning through aesthetics—in which cinema is included—stimulates critical thinking[3]
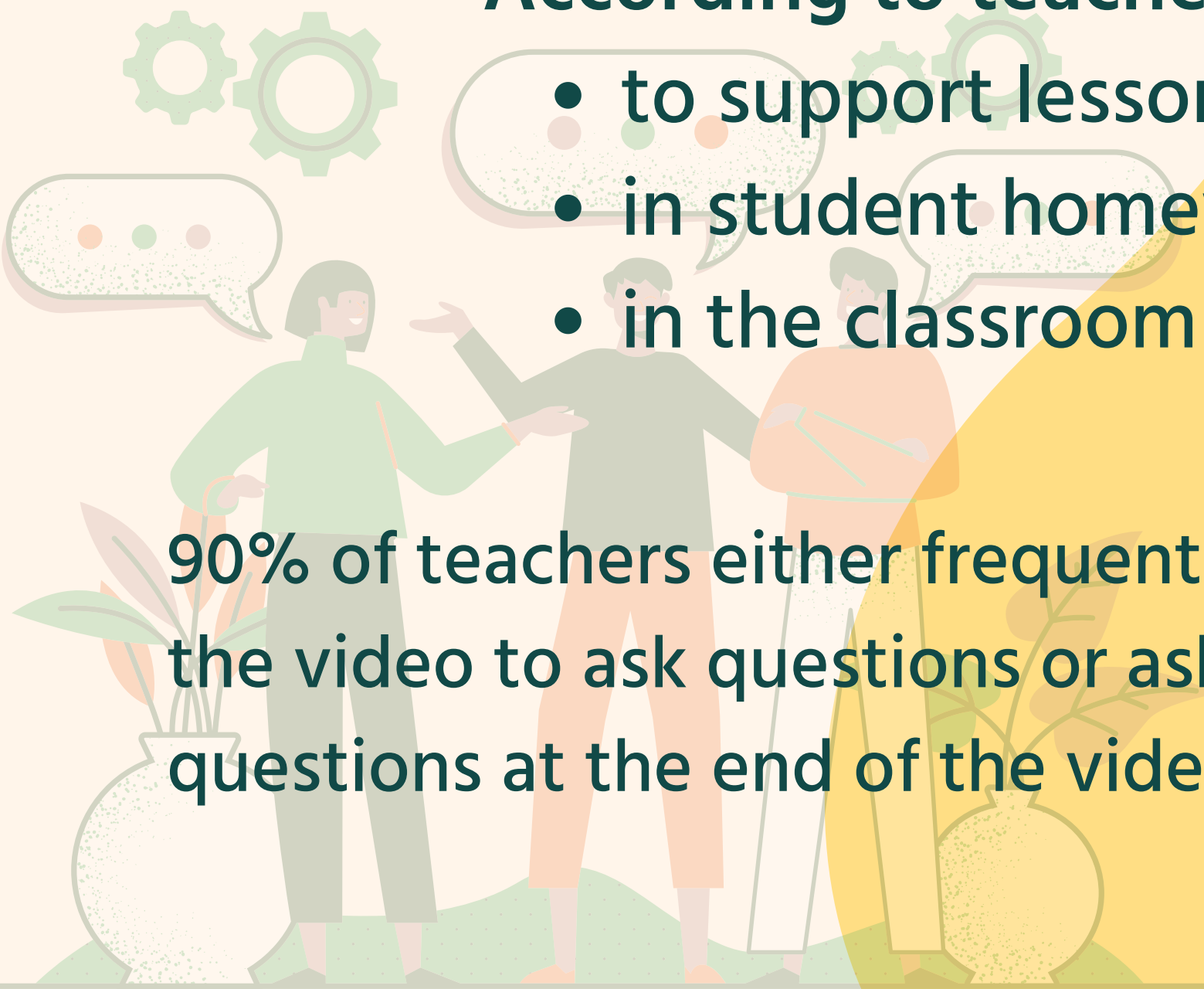
According to teachers, videos are used...[6]
- to support lessons (96.6%)
- in student homework (55%)
- in the classroom weekly (38%), and daily (20%)

90% of teachers either frequently stop the video to ask questions or ask specific questions at the end of the video.[7]

Video Criteria by teachers[7]
- 2-5 minutes in length
- Vetted by other educators

Teaching in the World Today with SEL Practices

The unprecedented circumstances caused by the COVID-19 global pandemic interrupted the education system, leading to school closures.

As schools embrace reopening this year, teachers are faced with the challenge of promoting social-emotional and academic learning to students in-person and/or remotely.

The proper execution of SEL in the classroom will help students, teachers, and parents establish relationships as well as effectively create safe and supportive learning environments.

SEL practices can help improve support systems, self-awareness, self-management, and decision-making.

Popular media like movies and television support SEL teachings through relatable and engaging content for students.

ClassHook
In Your Classroom

Teachers and educators can save hours of time each week searching for engaging content.

ClassHook has curated thousands of educational video clips and made them suitable for classroom use to share with students.

Scenes from these mediums explore a variety of topics, covering topics like Natural Sciences, Math, Economics, Psychology, Music and many more.

The videos on ClassHook are age-appropriate, aligned to educational standards, and accompanied with questions and in-site tools to facilitate discussions.

The Use Cases on the next page offer ways to use entertaining popular media clips, increasing engagement and aiding in social-emotional learning.

ClassHook Resources

https://www.classhook.com/use_cases

https://www.classhook.com/subjects/5120-social-emotional-learning

References

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