

# CONSTRUCTIONISM IN THE CERAMICS CLASSROOM

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## WHAT IS CONSTRUCTIONISM?

Constructionism is a learning theory based on the idea that students learn best through the creation of tangible, sharable, and personally meaningful artefacts.

## HOW DOES CONSTRUCTIONISM EMERGE IN ARTS EDUCATION?

The trial-and-error nature of ceramics work combined with the creation of meaningful objects makes it a powerful pedagogical tool. Working with clay improves self-assessment skills and builds confidence develop in students. Through the process they are empowered to learn from failure without being blocked by shame.

## STUDENT WORK



## WHAT WAS MY EXPERIENCE?

I am a practicing ceramics artist and student teacher, and had the opportunity to work with the Ceramics Department at Northern Secondary School in Toronto!

## WHAT DID I ACCOMPLISH?

Our ceramics students produced amazing projects this year, and we built strong personal connections in the studio. Ceramics helps students develop patience, problem-solving skills, creative thinking, and ambition. It also helped me develop those traits as a teacher, and I have become a teacher who leads with confidence and enthusiasm.

## IN THE STUDIO

