ABSTRACT

Teaching Music to the Deaf and Hearing Impaired

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This study examined the status of music education for the deaf and hearing-impaired in Trinidad and Tobago. It sought to develop a series of lesson plans for the implementation of a music programme at the School for the Deaf, in Cascade, Trinidad. Data were collected through interviews and participant observation. Participants were the students and six of the school's teachers. Findings revealed that: 1) students were able to understand the concept of rhythm and the reading of simple notation; 2) students were able to read and perform not only rhythmic patterns but also the melodic component; and 3) students were afforded opportunities for self-assessment, self-monitoring, and teamwork.

Keywords: Music education; Education of the deaf; Hearing impaired students; Teaching methods; Special education teachers; Special schools; Special education; Case studies; Trinidad and Tobago