



## Practical Visual Diary Workshop for Teachers

**Presenter:** Hilary Senhanli

**Outcome:** Teach Year 7 & 8 students how to be creative like an artist.

**Aim of this workshop:** Kids are richly creative but they find it difficult to generate ideas beyond simple interpretations and want to go straight to making their final piece. This workshop demonstrates how to address both issues in the formative years of 7 and 8 while equipping teachers with a number of strategies to make it happen.

### Who benefits?

Teachers:

- Help enroll students in the full use of their Visual Diaries
- See how carefully designed activities help students
  - generate sophisticated ideas
  - form the basic habits of annotation, copyright, glossary early on
- See how time can be saved by using ideas generated by students

Students:

- Realize that the process component of art making can be a lot of fun
- Have personalized activities and feel ownership of their ideas (and their diary)
- Learn how to communicate visually

### Workshop outline

You will be provided with the techniques to get students generating their own sophisticated ideas from scratch, effectively creating an “ideas bank” to use for future projects. You will step into the student’s shoes by getting started on your own Visual Diary and generating some ideas for art works on the spot. You will conduct an art materials experiment, explore the process of iteration, and learn how a “slow hunch” can develop over time. Finally, in selecting your best idea you will have an image that is “cooked” and ready to use as the basis of a unique art work.

### You will learn

- The concept of getting students to generate sophisticated ideas (like an artist)
- How to get students excited about the concept of process
- Engaging them in capturing and annotating
- Getting them to refine ideas by iterating and experimenting
- Helping them develop themes
- About logistics & classroom management
  - Getting students to embrace *their* Visual Diary
  - Using the activities to keep students on-task
  - Helpful tips on Visual Diary entries
  - Managing Visual Diaries going to and from home
  - On-going use of the Visual Diary. E.g. over the holidays, etc.