

START is pleased to publish an exclusive extract from a new book by leading artist-educator Nigel Meager. **Creativity and Culture was published** March 2006. To obtain a copy please see details at the end of the extract.

In recent years the education pendulum once again has swung decisively towards recognising the importance of creativity in education. At the same time the ability to motivate pupils effectively more often continues to be regarded as the fortunate

gift of the talented teacher rather than something that can be consciously nurtured as part of any well considered pedagogy. If we wish to firmly establish a central role for creativity in schools then providing proper opportunities, a supportive environment and keen motivation will be crucial. This is exactly what artist-educator Nigel Meager seeks to promote in this book

The book contains descriptions of classroom projects for primary schools. These are written for teachers and student available from NSEAD

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teachers who have no special training or experience in the arts and who do not normally have special access to external human resources, such as visiting artists, or art education specialists. There are examples of teaching strategies that enable children to be creative and to find and express their own meanings.

The projects, many of which are described in detail, also open opportunities for children to understand more about how people come to together to create culture and society.

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