

Unit 8: Movement & Dance

Content Area: **Unified Arts**
Course(s): **Music 2**
Time Period: **April**
Length: **3-4 weeks**
Status: **Published**

Unit Summary

Students will dance and move to music throughout every class. Musicians need many opportunities to strengthen their musicianship skills and understanding through kinesthetic connections. In addition, movement and dance create aesthetic experiences and build a sense of community. Students will participate in both improvised movements and planned choreography. Although dance is explored during each music class throughout the entire year, students will participate in a specialized dance unit each spring in combination with our physical education program in the gym.

Student Learning Objectives

Students will learn ...

- How dance can be used as a tool to explore improvisation
- About various cultures and historical periods through dance
- To maintain a steady beat (macro and micro) while performing movement/dance
- About duple and triple meter (beat groupings of 2's or 3's / stepping vs. skipping)
- To explore dance cooperatively and individually
- About various styles of dance - ballet, tap, jazz, hip hop, lyrical, etc.
- How to utilize fine and gross motor skills while discovering awareness of time, space, level (high/middle/low), weight, etc.
- To strengthen their understanding and awareness of tempo, dynamics, rhythm, and pitch through movement/dance
- About Legato vs. staccato through movement and dance

Essential Questions

- How can dance and movement further my enjoyment and understanding of music?
- Can dance build a sense of community?
- Can we learn about different cultures and historical period through dance?

Enduring Understandings

Students will understand that ...

- Movement and dance can be used as a pathway to further explore the concepts in their curriculum
- Movement and dance create opportunities for self expression
- Dances can be improvised and/or choreographed
- Dance helps strengthen our understanding of different cultures and historical period

Application

Students will be able to independently use their learning to ...

- Maintain a steady beat
- Recognize different genres of dance
- Recognize prominent works of dance
- Move expressively with awareness of tempo, dynamics, meter, etc.
- Perform planned choreography
- Improvise dance/movements in response to aural cues

Skills

Students will be skilled at...

- Identifying the various styles and genres of dance
- Expressing themselves through movement
- Maintaining a steady beat
- Performing dance from varying cultures and time periods
- Identifying characteristics of melody, rhythm, form, dynamics, tempo, etc based on aural prompts from dance repertoire

Resources

- Student Materials
- Teacher Materials
- Technology
- Professional Texts
- Lesson Plans
- Listening Maps
- Library of Listening Samples from Varying Cultures and Time Periods
- Professional Organization Resources
- Teacher Collaboration Sharing Sites and Social Media Resources
- Practice Website Links on Mrs. Repsher's CTSD Teacher Page