

# Unit 5: Movement & Dance

Content Area: **Unified Arts**  
Course(s): **Music 3**  
Time Period: **January**  
Length: **Ongoing**  
Status: **Published**

## Unit Summary

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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.

## Standards

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MU.3-5.1.3A.5.Cr1	Generating and conceptualizing ideas.
MU.3-5.1.3A.5.Cr1a	Generate and improvise rhythmic, melodic and harmonic ideas, and simple accompaniment patterns and chord changes. Explain connection to specific purpose and context (e.g., social, cultural, historical).
MU.3-5.1.3A.5.Cr2	Organizing and developing ideas.
MU.3-5.1.3A.5.Pr4d	Explain how context (e.g., personal, social, cultural, historical) informs performances.
MU.3-5.1.3A.5.Pr6	Conveying meaning through art.  The personal evaluation of musical work(s) and performance(s) is informed by analysis, interpretation, and established criteria.
MU.3-5.1.3A.5.Cn10a	Demonstrate how interests, knowledge, and skills related to personal choices and intent when creating, performing, and responding to music.

## Student Learning Objectives

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Students will learn to:

- Use dance as a tool to explore improvisation/creating
- Use dance/movement to better understand form
- Appreciate various cultures and historical periods through dance
- Maintain a steady beat (macro and micro) while performing movement/dance
- Use duple and triple meter (beat groupings of 2's or 3's / stepping vs. skipping)
- Explore dance cooperatively and individually
- Utilize fine and gross motor skills while discovering awareness of time, space, level (high/middle/low), weight, etc.
- Strengthen their understanding and awareness of tempo, dynamics, rhythm, and pitch through movement/dance
- Explore Legato vs. staccato through movement and dance

## Essential Questions

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- How can dance and movement further my enjoyment and understanding of music?
- Are there things in the music you noticed when you were moving that you did not just when listening?
- How can dance build a sense of community?
- How can we learn about different cultures and historical period through dance?

## Enduring Understandings

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Students will understand that:

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

## Application

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Students will be able to independently use their learning to:

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

## Skills

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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.