Unit II - Improvisation Skills

Content Area: **Dance**
Course(s): **Choreography/Improvisation**
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Title Section

Department of Curriculum and Instruction

Belleville Public Schools

Curriculum Guide

Choreography/Improvisation, 9-12

Improvisation Skills

Belleville Board of Education

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Board Approved:

Unit Overview

Students must respond to ideas with their own artistry, spontaneously discovering innate responses within themselves

Enduring Understanding

If students want to increase their improvisational skills they must have a total awareness of everything they do

Essential Questions

- What is improvisation?
- Why improvise?
- What are the concepts of improvisation?

Exit Skills

- Enable students to understand themselves as physical beings
- Instant response
- Explore "ing" words (verbs, or action words)
- Understand the elements of dance: time, space, shape, body parts and motion
- Technical, physical, perceptual, and intellectual skills in the creation and performance of a dance
- Skills needed to prepare for a Dance performance and proper etiquette/protocol for performances
- Proper terminology when inside a theatre/working with sound and lights

New Jersey Student Learning Standards (NJSLS-S)

1.1.12acc.Cr1a	Synthesize content generated from stimulus materials to choreograph dance studies or dances using original or codified movement.
1.1.12acc.Cr2b	Develop an artistic statement that reflects a personal aesthetic for an original dance study or dance. Select and demonstrate movements that support the artistic statement.
1.1.12acc.Cr3a	Clarify the artistic intent of a dance using established artistic criteria, self-reflection and the feedback of others. Analyze and evaluate the impact of choices made in the revision process. Justify the reasons for revisions.
1.1.12acc.Cr3b	Develop a strategy to record a dance using recognized systems of dance documentation (e.g., writing, a form of notation symbols, using media technologies).
1.1.12acc.Pr4b	Use syncopation and accented movements related to different tempi. Take rhythmic cues from different aspects of accompaniment. Integrate breath with metric and kinesthetic phrasing.
1.1.12acc.Pr4c	Perform planned and improvised movement sequences and dance combinations while self-monitoring and adjusting dynamics and energy to the choreographic intent.
1.1.12acc.Pr5d	Develop personal conditioning practices, using different body conditioning techniques, that improve range of motion, muscular flexibility, strength, and endurance to enhance performance.
1.1.12acc.Pr5e	Execute clarity of movement intention during complex movement sequences. Use style/genre specific vocabulary and execute codified movements with style/genre specific alignment and characteristics, through focused practice and repetition.
1.1.12acc.Pr6a	Embody the use of the senses and create imagery to envision a particular outcome, projecting and completing movements to enhance dance performance.
1.1.12acc.Pr6b	Apply rehearsal strategies to refine ensemble skills, performance accuracy, consistency, and expressiveness. Develop personal rehearsal strategies to enhance artistry and achieve performance goals.
1.1.12acc.Pr6c	Implement performance strategies to enhance projection. Demonstrate leadership qualities (e.g., commitment, dependability, responsibility, cooperation) and model performance etiquette and performance practices during class, rehearsal and performance. Accept notes from the choreographer and apply corrections to future performances. Document the rehearsal and performance process using dance and production terminology. Analyze and evaluate the success of a performance.
1.1.12acc.Re7a	Use genre-specific dance terminology to analyze dance works, recurring patterns of movement and their relationships that create structure and meaning in dance.
1.1.12acc.Cn10a	Evaluate personal choreography and how personal experiences and exposure to various cultures influences individual, emotional, intellectual, and kinesthetic responses to dance

	works.
1.1.12acc.Cn11a	Analyze how the role of dance in a global society has influenced various cultures, societies and historical periods throughout history. Examine how innovations in the arts have impacted dance-making in these communities in relation to the ideas and perspectives of the people from whom the dances originate.

Interdisciplinary Connections

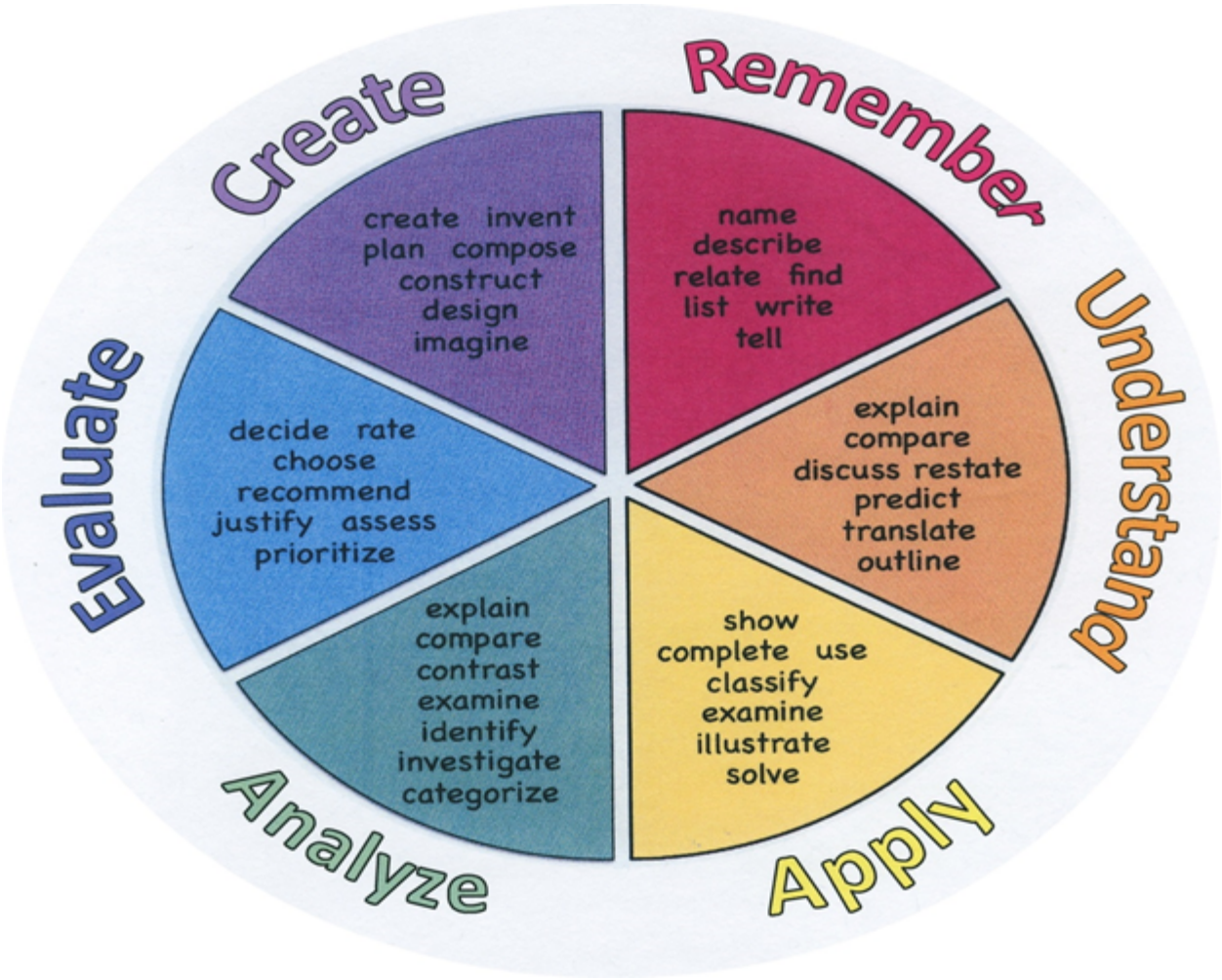
MA.G-CO.A.1	Know precise definitions of angle, circle, perpendicular line, parallel line, and line segment, based on the undefined notions of point, line, distance along a line, and distance around a circular arc.
9.4.12.CT	Critical Thinking and Problem-solving
9.2.12.CAP.7	Use online resources to examine licensing, certification, and credentialing requirements at the local, state, and national levels to maintain compliance with industry requirements in areas of career interest.
LA.RI.11-12.7	Integrate and evaluate multiple sources of information presented in different media or formats (e.g., visually, quantitatively) as well as in words in order to address a question or solve a problem.
LA.W.11-12.2	Write informative/explanatory texts to examine and convey complex ideas, concepts, and information clearly and accurately through the effective selection, organization, and analysis of content.
LA.W.11-12.3	Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, well-chosen details, and well-structured event sequences.
LA.W.9-10.3	Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, well-chosen details, and well-structured event sequences.
LA.W.9-10.4	Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience. (Grade-specific expectations for writing types are defined in standards 1–3 above.)
LA.W.11-12.4	Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience. (Grade-specific expectations for writing types are defined in standards 1–3 above.)
LA.SL.9-10.1	Initiate and participate effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led) with peers on grades 9–10 topics, texts, and issues, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly and persuasively.
SOC.6.1.12.D.2.a	Analyze contributions and perspectives of African Americans, Native Americans, and women during the American Revolution.
SOC.6.1.12.D.3.e	Determine the impact of religious and social movements on the development of American culture, literature, and art.

Learning Objectives

- Understand the importance of improvisation skills and their significant relationship to choreography
- Critique constructively
- Recognize basic aesthetic principles
- Demonstrate self-awareness, etiquette and creative risk taking
- Develop leadership skills

Action Verbs: Below are examples of action verbs associated with each level of the Revised Bloom's Taxonomy.

Remember	Understand	Apply	Analyze	Evaluate	Create
Choose	Classify	Choose	Categorize	Appraise	Combine
Describe	Defend	Dramatize	Classify	Judge	Compose
Define	Demonstrate	Explain	Compare	Criticize	Construct
Label	Distinguish	Generalize	Differentiate	Defend	Design
List	Explain	Judge	Distinguish	Compare	Develop
Locate	Express	Organize	Identify	Assess	Formulate
Match	Extend	Paint	Infer	Conclude	Hypothesize
Memorize	Give Examples	Prepare	Point out	Contrast	Invent
Name	Illustrate	Produce	Select	Critique	Make
Omit	Indicate	Select	Subdivide	Determine	Originate
Recite	Interrelate	Show	Survey	Grade	Organize
Select	Interpret	Sketch	Arrange	Justify	Plan
State	Infer	Solve	Breakdown	Measure	Produce
Count	Match	Use	Combine	Rank	Role Play
Draw	Paraphrase	Add	Detect	Rate	Drive
Outline	Represent	Calculate	Diagram	Support	Devise
Point	Restate	Change	Discriminate	Test	Generate
Quote	Rewrite	Classify	Illustrate		Integrate
Recall	Select	Complete	Outline		Prescribe
Recognize	Show	Compute	Point out		Propose
Repeat	Summarize	Discover	Separate		Reconstruct
Reproduce	Tell	Divide			Revise
	Translate	Examine			Rewrite
	Associate	Graph			Transform
	Compute	Interpolate			
	Convert	Manipulate			
	Discuss	Modify			
	Estimate	Operate			
	Extrapolate	Subtract			
	Generalize				
	Predict				



Suggested Activities & Best Practices

- Daily participation
- Skill improvement
- Knowledge of movement theories and terminology
- Understanding of aesthetic principles
- Ability to synthesize knowledge through creative projects and choreography
- Ability to solve problems
- Ability to analyze one's own skills in creative thinking
- Development memorization skills
- Ability to function as a cooperative member of a group

Assessment Evidence - Checking for Understanding (CFU)

- Admit Tickets
- Anticipation Guide
- Common Benchmarks
- Compare & Contrast
- Create a Multimedia Poster
- DBQ's
- Define
- Describe
- Evaluate
- Evaluation rubrics
- Exit Tickets
- Explaining
- Fist- to-Five or Thumb-Ometer
- Illustration
- Journals
- KWL Chart
- Learning Center Activities
- Multimedia Reports
- Newspaper Headline
- Outline
- Question Stems
- Quickwrite
- Quizzes
- Red Light, Green Light
- Self- assessments
- Socratic Seminar

- Study Guide
- Surveys
- Teacher Observation Checklist
- Think, Pair, Share
- Think, Write, Pair, Share
- Top 10 List
- Unit review/Test prep
- Unit tests
- Web-Based Assessments
- Written Reports

Primary Resources & Materials

Choreography: A Basic Approach Using Improvisation – Sandra Cerny Minton

Teaching Beginning Dance Improvisation - Joan Woodbury and Shirley Ririe

Ancillary Resources

Additional resources as needed at the discretion of the instructor

Technology Infusion

- Dance Apps
- Movies
- Music
- MS Word
- Photography/Videotaping
- Technical Design in the Arts

Alignment to 21st Century Skills & Technology

VPA.1.1.12.A.4	Synthesize knowledge of anatomical principles related to body alignment, body patterning, balance, strength, and coordination in compositions and performances.
VPA.1.1.12.A.CS1	Creating master works in dance requires ability to comprehend, articulate, and manipulate time, space, and energy across and within a broad spectrum of choreographic structures and through the use of many choreographic devices.
VPA.1.1.12.A.CS4	Artistry in dance performance is accomplished through complete integration of anatomical principles and clear direction of intent and purpose.
VPA.1.2.12.A.1	Determine how dance, music, theatre, and visual art have influenced world cultures throughout history.
VPA.1.2.12.A.2	Justify the impact of innovations in the arts (e.g., the availability of music online) on societal norms and habits of mind in various historical eras.
VPA.1.2.12.A.CS2	Access to the arts has a positive influence on the quality of an individual's lifelong learning, personal expression, and contributions to community and global citizenship.
VPA.1.3.12.A.4	Collaborate in the design and production of dances that use choreographic structures and incorporate various media and/or technologies.

VPA.1.3.12.A.CS2	Aesthetic quality results from conceptual coherence and from understanding and application of the principle unity of form and content.
VPA.1.3.12.A.CS3	Dance artistry is achieved through refined technique, musicality, clarity of choreographic intent, stylistic nuance, and application of proper body mechanics.
VPA.1.3.12.A.CS4	Dance production is collaborative and requires choreographic, technological, design, and performance skill.
VPA.1.4.12.A.3	Develop informed personal responses to an assortment of artworks across the four arts disciplines (dance, music, theatre, and visual art), using historical significance, craftsmanship, cultural context, and originality as criteria for assigning value to the works.
VPA.1.4.12.A.4	Evaluate how exposure to various cultures influences individual, emotional, intellectual, and kinesthetic responses to artwork.
VPA.1.4.12.A.CS1	Recognition of fundamental elements within various arts disciplines (dance, music, theatre, and visual art) is dependent on the ability to decipher cultural implications embedded in artworks.
VPA.1.4.12.A.CS3	Artistic styles, trends, movements, and historical responses to various genres of art evolve over time.
VPA.1.4.12.A.CS4	Criteria for assessing the historical significance, craftsmanship, cultural context, and originality of art are often expressed in qualitative, discipline-specific arts terminology.
VPA.1.4.12.B.3	Determine the role of art and art-making in a global society by analyzing the influence of technology on the visual, performing, and multimedia arts for consumers, creators, and performers around the world.
VPA.1.4.12.B.CS1	Archetypal subject matter exists in all cultures and is embodied in the formal and informal aspects of art.
VPA.1.4.12.B.CS2	The cohesiveness of a work of art and its ability to communicate a theme or narrative can be directly affected by the artist's technical proficiency as well as by the manner and physical context in which it is performed or shown.
VPA.1.4.12.B.CS3	Art and art-making reflect and affect the role of technology in a global society.

21st Century Skills/Interdisciplinary Themes

Upon completion of this section, please remove all remaining descriptions, notes, outlines, examples and/or illustrations that are not needed or used.

Please list only the **21st Century/Interdisciplinary Themes** that will be incorporated into this unit.

- Communication and Collaboration
- Creativity and Innovation
- Critical thinking and Problem Solving
- ICT (Information, Communications and Technology) Literacy
- Information Literacy
- Life and Career Skills
- Media Literacy

21st Century Skills

Upon completion of this section, please remove all remaining descriptions, notes, outlines, examples and/or illustrations that are not needed or used.

Please list only the **21st Century Skills** that will be incorporated into this unit.

- Civic Literacy
- Environmental Literacy
- Financial, Economic, Business and Entrepreneurial Literacy
- Global Awareness
- Health Literacy

Differentiation

Differentiations:

- Small group instruction
- Small group assignments
- Extra time to complete assignments
- Pairing oral instruction with visuals
- Repeat directions
- Teacher reads assessments aloud
- Additional time
- Preview vocabulary
- Preview content & concepts
- Student(s) work with assigned partner
- Visual presentation
- Assistive technology
- Auditory presentations

Hi-Prep Differentiations:

- Alternative formative and summative assessments
- Independent research and projects
- Multiple intelligence options
- Project-based learning
- Problem-based learning
- Tiered activities/assignments

Lo-Prep Differentiations

- Choice of books or activities
- Flexible grouping

- Goal setting with students
- Mini workshops to re-teach or extend skills
- Think-Pair-Share
- Varied journal prompts
- Varied supplemental materials

Special Education Learning (IEP's & 504's)

- printed copy of board work/notes provided
- additional time for skill mastery
- assistive technology
- behavior management plan
- Center-Based Instruction
- check work frequently for understanding
- computer or electronic device utilizes
- extended time on tests/ quizzes
- have student repeat directions to check for understanding
- highlighted text visual presentation
- modified assignment format
- modified test content
- modified test format
- modified test length
- multi-sensory presentation
- multiple test sessions
- preferential seating
- preview of content, concepts, and vocabulary
- Provide modifications as dictated in the student's IEP/504 plan
- reduced/shortened reading assignments
- Reduced/shortened written assignments
- secure attention before giving instruction/directions
- shortened assignments
- student working with an assigned partner
- teacher initiated weekly assignment sheet

- Use open book, study guides, test prototypes

English Language Learning (ELL)

- teaching key aspects of a topic. Eliminate nonessential information
- using videos, illustrations, pictures, and drawings to explain or clarif
- allowing products (projects, timelines, demonstrations, models, drawings, dioramas, poster boards, charts, graphs, slide shows, videos, etc.) to demonstrate student's learning;
- allowing students to correct errors (looking for understanding)
- allowing the use of note cards or open-book during testing
- decreasing the amount of workpresented or required
- having peers take notes or providing a copy of the teacher's notes
- modifying tests to reflect selected objectives
- providing study guides
- reducing or omitting lengthy outside reading assignments
- reducing the number of answer choices on a multiple choice test
- tutoring by peers
- using computer word processing spell check and grammar check features
- using true/false, matching, or fill in the blank tests in lieu of essay tests

At Risk

- allowing students to correct errors (looking for understanding)
- teaching key aspects of a topic. Eliminate nonessential information
- allowing products (projects, timelines, demonstrations, models, drawings, dioramas, poster boards, charts, graphs, slide shows, videos, etc.) to demonstrate student's learning
- allowing students to select from given choices
- allowing the use of note cards or open-book during testing
- collaborating (general education teacher and specialist) to modify vocabulary, omit or modify items to reflect objectives for the student, eliminate sections of the test, and determine how the grade will be determined prior to giving the test.
- decreasing the amount of workpresented or required
- having peers take notes or providing a copy of the teacher's notes
- marking students' correct and acceptable work, not the mistakes
- modifying tests to reflect selected objectives
- providing study guides

- reducing or omitting lengthy outside reading assignments
- reducing the number of answer choices on a multiple choice test
- tutoring by peers
- using authentic assessments with real-life problem-solving
- using true/false, matching, or fill in the blank tests in lieu of essay tests
- using videos, illustrations, pictures, and drawings to explain or clarify

Talented and Gifted Learning (T&G)

- Above grade level placement option for qualified students
- Advanced problem-solving
- Allow students to work at a faster pace
- Cluster grouping
- Complete activities aligned with above grade level text using Benchmark results
- Create a blog or social media page about their unit
- Create a plan to solve an issue presented in the class or in a text
- Debate issues with research to support arguments
- Flexible skill grouping within a class or across grade level for rigor
- Higher order, critical & creative thinking skills, and discovery
- Multi-disciplinary unit and/or project
- Teacher-selected instructional strategies that are focused to provide challenge, engagement, and growth opportunities
- Utilize exploratory connections to higher-grade concepts
- Utilize project-based learning for greater depth of knowledge

Sample Lesson

Unit Name: Improvisation Skills

NJSLS: See above

Interdisciplinary Connection: Language Arts

Statement of Objective: Students will develop instant response

Anticipatory Set/Do Now: Listen to sounds

Learning Activity: Students face away from the instructor so that they cannot anticipate the sound by seeing the instructor beating on the drum.

Student Assessment/CFU's: Teacher observation, Self and peer observation, Classroom performances, Weekly journal, Written/oral critiques,

Materials: Mirrors, music

21st Century Themes and Skills: Creativity & Innovation, Critical Thinking and Problem Solving, Communication, Collaboration

Differentiation/Modifications: Preview content & concepts, Project based learning, Varied journal prompts

Integration of Technology: Technical design in the arts, recordings, photography/videotaping