

Dance Vocabulary

Dance Movement

human movement, combined with artistic expression

movements

Actions made by the body

● **locomotor**

Actions of the body that cover space (walk, run, skip, hop, jump, slide, leap, and gallop)

● **nonlocomotor**

Actions of the body that do not cover space (bend, stretch, twist, and swing)

Elements of Dance

the basic parts of dance: space, time, and force

force

The use of energy while moving

space

The area covered by the dance movements (This includes shape, level, directions, and pathways.)

● **directions**

Forward, backward, sideways, up, down, etc.

● **level**

The distance from the floor

● **pathways**

Patterns that the body makes as it moves through space or on the floor

● **shape**

The design of the body as it exists in space

time

How fast or slow (tempo); even or uneven (beat); and long or short (duration) the movement is

Dance Forms

the way movements are put together

dance composition

A group of dance movements with a beginning, a middle, and an end

expressive qualities

Ideas and emotions communicated by the movement patterns of a dance composition

Cultures

the customs, beliefs, arts, and way of life of a specific group of people

African

African Dance is ceremonial and is an example of Ceremonial dancing.

Native-American

Native-American Dance, like African Dance, is classified as a form of Ceremonial dancing.

Colonial

The purposes of Colonial dances were social. An example of Colonial Dance is the Virginia Reel.

Purposes

the reasons why people dance

artistic dance

Dances created and performed in order to convey a meaning

dances) or ceremonies (Native-American dances for hunting, war, rain etc.)

ceremonial dance

Dances that are performed at celebrations (wedding

recreational dance

Dances performed in social settings (folk, line, etc.)

Elementary Drama Vocabulary

Elements of Drama

essential components of a dramatic performance

dialogue

A conversation between two or more characters to express thoughts, feelings, and action

conflict

The struggle between opposing forces, ideas, or interests in a play

monologue

A long speech made by one person, often called a soliloquy

plot or storyline

The plan of action or events of the story; a plot has a beginning, a middle, and an end.

Elements of Production

aspects of a play outside of the dramatic elements that aid in telling the story

costumes

A style of dress characteristic of a particular country, period, or people and often worn in a play. Costumes also give information about a character, such as where the story takes place, when it takes place, social status etc.

make-up

The production element that is used on an actor's body and that reflects what the character looks like; actors/actresses wear some type of make-up on areas of the body that are seen by the audience (e.g., face, arms, legs).

music

Music is an element of production that often helps create a mood, add suspense, etc.

props

Any article, except costume or scenery, used as part of a dramatic production (e.g., a glass for drinking, a purse, a weapon)

role

The characteristics and expected social behavior of an individual in a given position (e.g., mother, employer)

scenery

The painted backdrop on a theatrical stage that represents where the story takes place

sound

Any sound, not made by an actor, used to help create the environment, to establish a mood, or to aid in telling the story (e.g., forest sounds, thunder, street sounds)

Creative Dramatics

a way of learning through role-playing and problem-solving

improvisation

Creating a character or situation using movement and speech, without prior preparation or rehearsal

mimicry

The practice of imitating another person or action

pantomime

A situation where the performer uses only gestures, body language, or facial expressions to communicate feelings or emotions, solely on physical movement, and does not use any vocal sounds

role-playing

Improvising movement and dialogue to put oneself in another's place in a particular situation and often to examine the person(s) and/or situation(s) being improvised

storytelling

The act of telling a story in the oral tradition

Elements of Performance

the components necessary to perform a dramatic work

acting

Pretending to be a character

character

A person portrayed in a drama, novel, or other artistic piece

listening

Focusing on what is being said or acted out on stage and reacting to it

movement

How the actor uses his/her body to create a character or to react to another character

speaking style

The manner in which a character speaks, which reflects cultural or historical influences

storytelling

The act of telling a story in the oral tradition

vocal expression

The manner in which an actor uses his/her voice in a performance

Styles

a distinctive manner of dramatic expression; the way the dramatic and production elements are put together

folk tales

Any story or tale passed on traditionally and based on superstition or false beliefs

myths

Traditional stories dealing with supernatural beings, ancestors, or heroes

Cultures

the total product of human creativity

West-African

Drama in the West-African culture serves a purpose. The purpose usually represents an important time in a person's life.

Native-American

The use of drama in Native-American culture is similar to the West-African culture in that the drama serves a purpose. Their stories reflect their belief system and their lifestyle. Native-American stories are told in the oral tradition and are often used to teach children a lesson.

Periods

relating a particular historical time

Colonial American

Stories from this period are generally folk tales or legends

Elementary Music Vocabulary

Elements of Music

basic components that are found in a musical composition: rhythm, melody, form, timbre, dynamics, tempo, harmony

Rhythm

the organization of notes and rests to create a beat

bar lines

Vertical lines that divide the staff into measures

duration

The length of time a sound or silence lasts

fermata

Holding a note for a longer than normal time

meter

Another name for time signature

- **duple meter**

Beats organized in twos

- **triple meter**

Beats organized in threes

notes

Music symbols for sound

- **whole note**

A note or rest that receives four (4) beats

- **half note**

A note or rest that receives two (2) beats

- **quarter note**

A note or rest that receives one (1) beat

- **eighth note**

A note or rest that receives 1/2 beat

rests

Music symbols for silence

time signature

Tells how many beats per measure and what kind of note gets one beat

- **2/4 time**

A time signature organized as two beats per measure, and a quarter note gets one beat

- **4/4 time**

A time signature organized as four beats per measure, and a quarter note gets one beat

Melody

the tune

direction

Whether a melody moves higher or lower or stays the same

middle C

The white key to the left of the two black keys in the center of a piano keyboard

pitch

The highness or lowness of a sound

pitch notation

Symbols used to tell a performer what pitch to play

shape

The shape created as a melody moves higher and lower or stays on the same pitch

skip

Moving from one note to another while missing several in between

step

Moving from one note directly to another; a step equals two half steps

treble clef

A symbol used to show high-sounding notes

treble clef lines

Named *e*, *g*, *b*, *d*, *f* from bottom to top (every good boy deserves fudge)

treble clef spaces

Named *f*, *a*, *c*, *e* from bottom to top (spells *face*)

Form

the overall plan or structure for a piece of music

- AB**
Music composed with two different sections
- ABA**
Music composed in three sections: *A*'s are alike and *B* is different.
- call and response**
A soloist makes a statement and a group gives a reply.
- repeat signs**
A symbol that tells a musician to go back and play something again
- round**
Form where performers play or sing the same melody by entering at different times
- verse/chorus**
- **verse**
A set of words set to music as in a hymn
 - **chorus**
A set of words set to music, often repeated after each verse

Timbre

the special sound of each instrument, voice, or sound; also called tone color

- brass**
Instruments that use a metal cup and shaped mouthpiece to create their sound
- folk**
Those instruments, other than orchestral instruments, which are used in different cultures or groups around the world
- instrument family**
Grouping instruments by like characteristics
- percussion**
Any instrument that is struck, shaken, or hammered
- string**
Instruments that use strings to create their sounds, by bowing, plucking, or strumming
- voice parts**
Different musical lines divided by highness or lowness of the voice
- woodwind**
Instruments that make their sounds by using a single or double reed

Dynamics

the loudness or softness of the music

- forte**
Loud
- piano**
Soft
- mezzo forte**
Medium loud
- mezzo piano**
Medium soft

Tempo

the speed at which the music is played

- adagio**
Slow
- allegro**
Fast

Harmony

two or more different notes played or sung at the same time

intervals

The distance between two notes

major

A pattern of notes arranged in a special order:
wwhwwh (*w*=whole, *h*= half)

parts

Separate lines in music

resting “home” tone

A dominant tone that has other tones related to it

tonality

The relation of tones and chords to a “home” tone

unison

To sing and/or play the same part

Style

the individual way the elements of music are put together—can be individual, by periods, by composer groups, or by nations

Genre

a type or category of music

bluegrass

A musical style from the American South, known for its quick tempos and elaborate vocals, often showing off instruments such as the fiddle, banjo, mandolin, guitar, and bass

blues

A kind of American music that came from spirituals and work songs of African-American people

country

Popular American music using dance rhythms, simple form, and down-to-earth lyrics

folk songs

Songs created by a particular group of people

game songs

Songs written or used to accompany a game

lullabies

Songs written to help children go to sleep

marches

Usually patriotic pieces that are performed by a band and often are performed while marching

patriotic

Songs written to inspire love for one’s country

popular

Music that is well-known and liked by a particular group at a particular time

rap

A style of popular music that started in the late 1970s and that uses rhyming lyrics spoken or half-sung in a syncopated style over a rhythmic accompaniment

rock

Popular music of the ’50s and ’60s

spirituals

American folk hymns often linked to the slaves of the 19th century

work songs

Songs written to make work easier and to lift the spirits of the workers

Cultures

the total product of human creativity

American Folk

Music of the common people

Native-American

The people who first lived in what is now the Americas

West-African

Ethnic peoples from the western countries of Africa

Periods

a historical time period in which the arts often have similar characteristics

Baroque

A musical time in history from about 1600 to 1750

composer

A person who creates musical works; the following are composers of the Baroque:

- **Bach**

A German composer of the Baroque period

- **Handel**

A German composer who worked mainly in England during the Baroque period

- **Vivaldi**

An Italian composer to the Baroque period

instruments of the Baroque period:

- **organ**

A wind instrument with a keyboard; the sound is made by forcing air through a series of pipes.

- **harpsichord**

A stringed instrument with keyboard; the sound is made by a plectrum plucking the strings.

- **orchestral families**

Instruments grouped by similar characteristics

Elementary Visual Art Vocabulary

Elements of Art

the basic parts of a work of art: line, color, value, shape, texture, form, and space

color

An element of art that is caused by the amount of reflected light; hue

- **color group**

A family of related hues: warm, cool, and neutral

- **cool colors**

The group of hues that include greens, blues, and purples

- **neutral colors**

The groups of hues that include black, white, browns, and grays

- **primary color**

A hue from which all other colors can be mixed: red, yellow, and blue

- **secondary color**

A hue mixed from two primary colors, such as orange, green, and purple

- **warm colors**

The group of hues that include yellows, oranges, and reds

form

A unit that has length, width, and depth, (three dimensions), such as a cube, pyramid, cone, sphere, or cylinder

line

An element of art; a mark that moves through space and can vary in length, width, direction, and color

shape

The area enclosed by a line that has length and width (two dimensions), such as a square, rectangle, triangle, or circle

texture

The way a surface looks or feels: rough, smooth, prickly, or furry

Principles of Design

concepts that guide artists in creating and organizing their artwork: balance, pattern, contrast, and emphasis

balance

How the elements are arranged to show a sense of weight in a work of art: radial, symmetrical, asymmetrical

- **asymmetry**

Balance in which things on each side of a center line or point appear to be unequal

- **symmetry**

Balance in which things on each side of a center line or a central point appear the same

contrast

An obvious difference between two things; light and dark, thick and thin, big and little

emphasis

The drawing of attention to important areas or objects in a work of art (focal point)

pattern

The repetition of shape, line, or colors in a design; principle of art

Styles

the way in which an artist works: realistic, abstract, and nonobjective

abstract

A style of art that is not realistic, but adds or subtracts details to create a personal design or view

realistic

Showing something as it might really look, such as a person or scene

nonobjective

A style of art that does not show recognizable objects, but uses lines, shapes, and colors as the subject

Subject matter

what the artwork is about: portrait, landscape, and still life

landscape

A work of art showing a view of a natural outdoor scene such as a forest or fields

still life

An artwork showing an arrangement of objects that cannot move on their own, such as a vase of flowers

portrait

A work of art created to show a person, animal, or group of people, usually focusing on the face

Processes

the methods used by the artist to produce the work of art

collage

An art process made with cut or torn paper or fabric and glue

pottery

The art of making objects with clay, hardened by firing in a kiln

drawing

Marks made with dry media, such as a pencil or crayon

sculpture

An art process using modeling, carving, or the joining of materials into a three-dimensional form

painting

An art process made with wet media, such as tempera, oil, or watercolor

weaving

An art process using thread or yarn to produce cloth on a loom

Cultures

the customs, beliefs, arts, and way of life of a specific group of people

Early-American

A culture existing during the establishment and colonization of North America, beginning in the mid-1600s

West-African

A culture existing in the western coastal area of Africa whose purpose for art is ceremonial, decorative, and functional

Native-American

A culture existing in North America whose purpose for art is ceremonial, decorative, and functional