

Movement Poetry

By Janet Shumway



Grade 3
Core Concept/Art integration

Objective: The students will participate in movement that will be inspired by poetry. The poems have been written by Joyce Boorman. The students will dance to Boorman's poems then write and dance their own movement poems.

3 Grade **Core Curriculum Fine Arts** **Standard 4**

The student identifies and demonstrates knowledge of the body as the instrument of dance by exploring movement skills. This includes the practice of safety for self and others and regular participation in body strengthening, flexibility, and endurance activities through stationary and locomotor movement.

Language Arts **Standard 5**

Demonstrate understanding of word relationships and nuances in word meanings.

Materials:

Drum and drum beater
Joyce Boorman's movement poems
Paper and pencils

Moving:

The students will participate safely in warm up activities, including strengthening, endurance and flexibility exercises. They will also demonstrate axial movement and the basic loco motor steps.

Investigating:

Tell the children that you will be reading several poems. The first time you read a poem they need to sit quietly and hear it. After they dance a poem, have them sit down right where they are in the room to hear the next poem. Read and dance several of the poems. After they do several of the individual poems, they can get into partners to dance the partner poems.

Creating:

Together as a class, write a couple of movement poems. Then dance them. Two examples are:

Stumble and bumble,
Rumble and tumble
Whirl and twirl,
Swirl like a squirrel.

Stand up real tall,
and bounce like a ball.
Run to the wall,
Then bump and fall.

Pass out paper and pencils and have the students write their own movement poems. Dance as many as you have time for. Allow the authors of these poems to take a bow after the class dances their poem.

Joyce Boorman's Movement Poems

Wheel, wheel,
Go way up high,
Twirl around then try to fly.

Spin, turn, whizz,
Whizz round and round.
Run, leap, roll
Then gently touch the ground.

Skip, skip
Curl up small,
Spread way out
And roll like a ball

Slashing, slashing through the air
Darting, fleeing, everywhere
Floating, drifting, there's no sound
Twisting, weaving to the ground!

Touch gently on the floor
With fingers, elbows, toes,
Turn softly to the sky
With knees and head and nose.

Galloping high
Up in the sky.
Twirling down low
Very softly go.
Dashing, darting,
Here we go,
Way up high,
Then very low.

Watch me skip,
Watch me hide.
Now I pop,
And start to slide.

I can go shooting all over the place
Then just as quickly curl up in my place.
From there I reach out as far as can be,
Then off I go shooting for I'm me! I'm me!

Feet are stamping
Stamping everywhere.
Knees are poking
Stabbing in the air.
Hands are threading
Gently through the space.
Now every part's exploding
Goodness, what a face!

Twist and spin,
Fold clos in.
Burst far away
Then freeze and stay

For Partners:

Over, under
Around and through,
Backward and forward
Where I meet you.

Squeeze, explode
We meet and part.
Whirling around
We return to start.
Squeeze, explode,
Squeeze, explode,
Squeeze, explode,
We meet and part.
Whirling around
Whirling around
Whirling around
We return to start.