Terra Linda Elementary
District Art Representative Teacher (DART)
2nd Grade

Book study put to Dance

We shared the book HERE IS THE AFRICAN SAVANNA by Dunphy as the students explored dance movements.

Core Objectives:
* Create original dance that reflects awareness to self and the world.
* Analyze dance to world culture.
* Explored and perform contrasting qualities of movement.
* Performed to a sequence based on several movement qualities.
* Explore shape, levels, size, pathways and movement through space.
* Move to steady beat and simple rhythm.
* Listening to signals and respond.
* Explore the joy of moving.

Observations:
The students enjoyed having a focus (text) to the movement, and moving to objects found in the African Savannah. They showed creativity in how they moved to the grass, gathered as a herd of zebra, stalking like the lions, grew into giraffes, took shape as the trees, became baboons throwing twisting seed pods, leaping like the impalas, perching on hippos like tick birds, and drinking like the elephants. Getting them to do it quietly was a challenge, but bringing the drum in for rhythm and audio cue to change helped. They learned new vocabulary, which really stuck with them after using their bodies to move in those ways. They were also improving their sequencing skills and reading comprehension. I was amazed with the retention from week to week.