

## ALL ABOUT DANCE FOR AITS

# Exploring the Arts

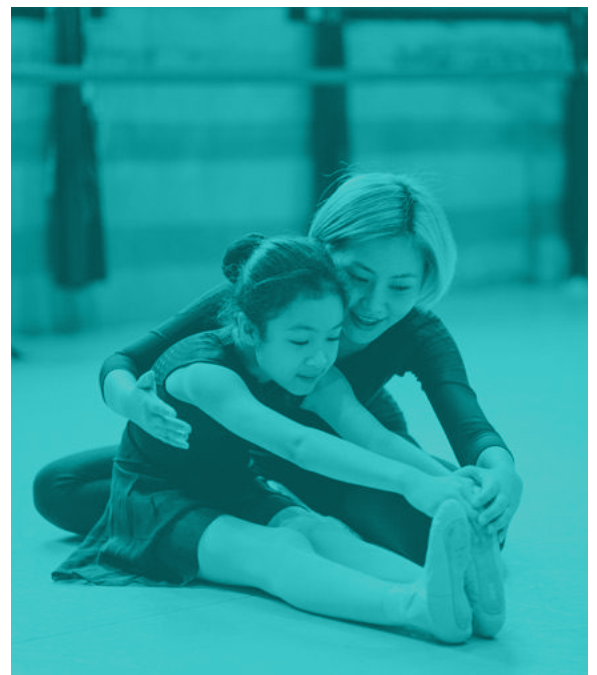
**After Christmas the next sector of the ArtsAround Program to be explored is dance.** For some of you, you may be comfortable and even keen to get this break from lugging instruments and dealing with so many aspects of teaching music. For others you may be dreading this term.

Let's hope that this very inspirational link will provide you with what you need to know about teaching dance. Once you wrap your head around the great ideas, explanations and wonderful YouTube demonstrations demonstrating dance as it should be experienced, you will be good to go! This is one of the best websites I have ever seen, so feel free to savour and watch and learn at your own pace.

Many students feel embarrassed or uncomfortable moving their bodies, especially with their peers watching. They tend to turn their bodies into small, curled up shapes which is an indicator of how they are feeling. Of course, they will need encouragement and compassion. However, if you use some of the examples provided in these videos, you will begin to enjoy teaching 'movement' with confidence. You, too, can grow through the process!

### **The Elements of Dance**

These YouTube videos below are additional forms of encouragement to become more involved about the great fun in store for those students who are reluctant.



**Exploring Symmetry Through Dance** 10:21 minutes

This is a collection of fun suggestions to use on and off during dance lessons this semester. Like win-it-in-a-minute, choose 2-4 kids at the end of some lessons to end with a fun game they can take and try it out with their family. Or if you are a classroom teacher, put these YouTubes downloaded on an iPad or tablet at your Math Centre. They can provide hours of fun and are a great way to work with different student partners too. A collaborative and fun experience!

## IDEAS FOR Your Elements of Dance Lessons

These You Tubes will hopefully inspire you to use some of these ideas when you first start trying to get your students to move by making many shapes, with symmetry and asymmetrical movements.

**Symmetrical Movements**

**Symmetrical Dance: Grades 4-8** 5:43 minutes

## Inspiration and Integration Gifts for the Classroom Teachers

You will discover in some lessons this year that integration is so powerful that it would be a shame not to offer some activities for the students to explore during other subjects. In this case exploring with shapes and angles is beautifully connected to Math. If you are a classroom teacher, just use these ideas at a Math Centre or even in Phys Ed class or as a Brain Break or DPA. Some ideas work for a Visual Art lesson as line and shape drawings. So many connections!

The more we can connect the lessons we teach in school to real life, the more authentic they become to the students who then see the value of the learning. The more we leave content as 'stuff to remember' the less likely your students will retain the new knowledge apply it, or even notice where it appears in the world!

If you are an itinerant or planning time teacher, this is a wonderful opportunity to collaborate with your student's classroom teacher. It creates a new synergy since you are asking nothing of the teacher except to demonstrate to the children how subjects are connected. Simply email them a friendly note by cutting and pasting the links chosen for their grade.



## Integrated Math/Visual Art/Gym (Brain Break or DPA) Links for the Classroom Teacher

### Symmetry for Grade 4 Classroom Teachers

- ▶ [Line of Symmetry](#)
- ▶ [Symmetry In Real-Life](#)

### Grade 5 YouTubes for the Classroom Teacher

- ▶ [Asymmetrical/Symmetry](#)
- ▶ [Symmetry in Math](#) 3:18 min

### Symmetry for Grade 6 Classroom Teachers

- ▶ [A Symmetrical World](#) 2:13 minutes
- ▶ [Lines of Symmetry](#) 4:13 minutes

### Symmetry for Grade 7 Classroom Teachers

- ▶ [Symmetrical Shape Drawing for Visual Arts](#) 4: 24 minutes
- ▶ [Positive and Negative Space Art Project](#)

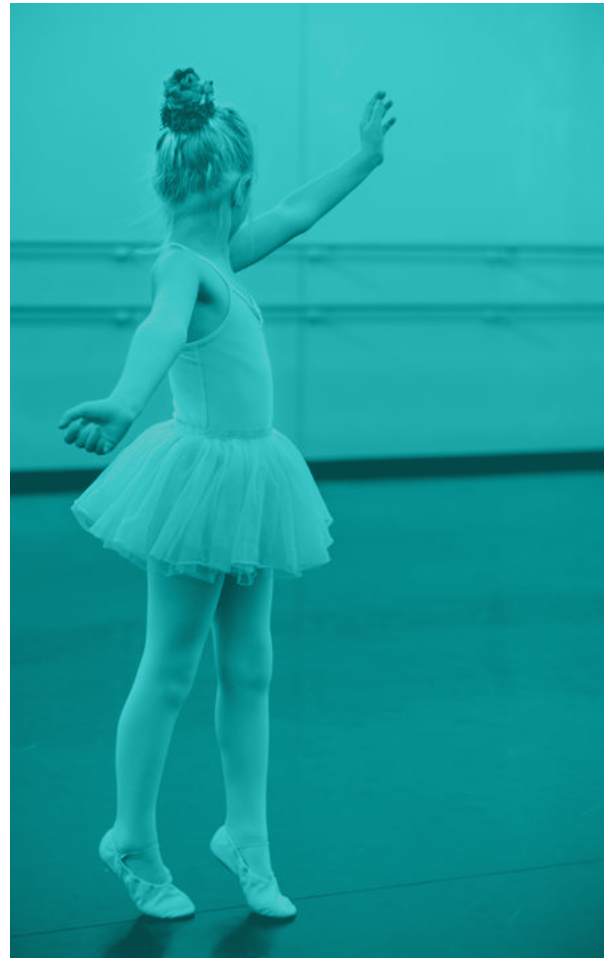
You could put iPads out at an Art Centre or show the video to the whole class as an introduction to this topic. You could then allow some time for your students to research for themselves - what they may want to design to illustrate positive vs negative space. Then they can do a quick sketch for your approval, before they begin their masterpiece.

If you choose to use this video, water colour paper and paints are not necessary unless you prefer that. Regular paint, pastels or even colourful markers can work, too. Your students may want to create their own design or even spend a bit more time exploring other artists and their creations in demonstrating positive and negative space.

### Grade 8 YouTubes for the Classroom Teacher

#### Angles and Slopes for a Math Activity

- ▶ [Learn to Find the Slope](#) 5:38 min
- ▶ [Types of Angles](#) 5:41 minutes



“ Change is the end result of all true learning! ”

Leo Buscaglia