

Appendix A The Elements of Dance

The elements of dance are the ingredients of dance. Often, one or two elements predominate in a dance, but all the elements are present. The different ways of combining and using the elements determine the expression of the dance, just as re-ordering words in a sentence changes the meaning of the sentence. The elements of dance identified in the dance program are based on the movement theories of Laban (1975), and the later work of Preston-Dunlop (1980a, 1980b) and Boorman (1969). The elements are described below.

Actions

Actions are what the body is doing. By finding out, through movement explorations, what the body can do and by expanding the body's abilities, students build a "bank" or repertoire of movements they might use in their dance creations. This "bank" is called a movement vocabulary. A rich movement vocabulary increases the capacity to express through dance.

Actions can travel (locomotor) or move on the spot (non-locomotor). They fall into the following categories: travelling, stillness, gesturing, jumping, falling, turning, twisting, contracting, expanding and transferring weight.

The following is an action word list (by no means complete):

float kick stamp close creep run punch jab shrink bound skip soar inflate shrivel balance swing wobble flick spring shimmy grow wither listen gallop vault quiver expand dwindle shiver slide perch tremble rise collapse vibrate settle wiggle extend squeeze stretch roll bend pause twitch spread crumple explode swell melt sink flee hold flap lower dart freeze jerk open drip Students in the middle years will:

- States in the initiation of the control of the cont
- continue to explore a range of movements
- challenge and commit themselves physically in all their movement experiences
- expand and increase the complexity of their movements and refine their repertoire of movements (movement vocabulary), with attention paid to the clarity of their movements
- increase their abilities to fall, turn, balance and jump.

The Body

The body is the instrument of dance. Just as a painter paints with a brush, in dance it is through the body that movements appear. Therefore, students need to have knowledge about their body and its potential for movement. Awareness of the body is encouraged in the dance curriculum by learning about the following body concepts:

Grade 5 Dance

Learning Objectives Checklist

The students will:

understand that actions, body, dynamics, relationships, and space comprise the basic language of dance
explore arm and leg gestures that lead toward, away from, and around own bodies
extend repertoire of actions with attention paid to clarity of movements
develop the ability to control acceleration and deceleration of movements (quickly and slowly)
 recognize that energy is needed to resist gravity
 explore and identify moving to various metric and non-metric rhythms
explore carving space into volumes with own bodies
 practise clarity of shape when in motion or in stillness
 explore a variety of relationships alone, with a partner, and in small groups
 become aware of the transitions in dance phrases
explore ways of creating contrast in own movements
 know that sequencing means ordering movements in a meaningful way
 become aware of repetition of movements in dances
become aware of the role of variety in dance
understand principles of alignment and balance
copy movement phrases as demonstrated
extend own body's range of movement, strength, and balance with attention paid to correct alignment
understand that own dance compositions are unique expressions
understand that they can get ideas for dances from sources such as stories, personal experiences,
 feelings, memories, music, research, observations, imagination, or movement itself
include, in journal, a record of own dance movements using invented and/or traditional notation
symbols (i.e., Labanotation)
select own stimuli as starting points for personal expression
increasingly commit to use of improvisation to generate and develop movement ideas
with increasing discernment, select movements from explorations to create dance phrases
 create dance compositions that have binary (AB) form
understand that reflection is an important part of dance-making processes
understand that they are communicating meaning through own dance compositions
explore the contribution of dancers and choreographers of various eras, locales, and cultures
 explore the contributions of Saskatchewan and other Canadian dancers and choreographers,
including First Nation and Métis artists
 learn dances of various styles and cultural groups, and discuss what the dances tell about the culture
articulate the variety of reasons for creating dances
understand that dance tells something about the society in which it was created
realize that dance sometimes supports or questions a culture's or society's beliefs
understand that changes in dance reflect changes in society
 continue to recognize and appreciate technical proficiency in dance productions
continue to recognize and appreciate technical proficiency in dance productions
 view dances with a willingness to try to understand the choreographer's intentions
 explore various ways that people can respond to a dance presentation (i.e., thoughts, feelings, and associations)
recognize that knowing more about a dancer, choreographer, and his/her society can help them understand a dance presentation
engage willingly in a process for viewing and responding to dance presentations
understand that it is important to support opinions with reasons related to the dance itself
begin to recognize ways that artists make connections among the arts
explore the role of dance artists and functions of dance in own and surrounding communities
 become aware of the role and influence of dance in own daily lives, including mass media and popular
culture

The whole body

Body parts - head, arms, hands, legs, feet, torso, elbows, wrists, shoulders, hips, knees, ankles

Body zones - body areas of front, back, left side, right side, upper half, lower half

Body bases - whatever supports the rest of the body; for example, when standing -- the feet, when kneeling -- the knees.

In the middle years, students will reinforce their understanding of their body as their instrument of dance. Middle years students will:

- explore and use a variety of whole body and body part actions, body bases and body zones in their dance experiences
- work toward moving with efficient use of their bodies while paying attention to movement fundamentals such as correct alignment, balance, etc.
- continue to use knowledge of their body to increase the clarity of their movements in all their dance experiences
- explore and develop understanding of the range and function of their body parts; for example, the range and function of their joints
- continue to challenge and extend their bodies' cardiovascular abilities, flexibility, strength, balance and co-ordination.

Relationships

To what or to whom describes the relationship. It is the correspondence or connection between things, be they dancers to each other, dancers to objects or a dancer's body parts to each other. In the middle years, students will continue to explore the relationships of connecting, leading, following, meeting, parting, near, far, passing by and surrounding.

In addition, students in the middle years will:

- demonstrate co-operation and increased ability to work effectively in large and small groups
- collaborate in large and small groups to create dance compositions
- explore various configurations of relationships when working as a group; for example, unison, canon, in contrast, in various formations
- respond spontaneously with or in reaction to others when improvising
- explore moving in relation to a prop or object
- make connections between relationships and expression.

Dynamics

Dynamics describe *how* the body moves. It is an umbrella term and includes the factors which gives movements various qualities. Therefore, dynamics is the element which gives dance its expressiveness. Awareness of dynamics is encouraged in the dance curriculum by learning about the following dynamic concepts:

Duration - the length of time needed to do a movement; duration is on a continuum of very short to very long

Directions - forward, backward, sideways, upward or downward

Focus - where the eyes or the intention of the movement is directed

Levels - high, middle and low or deep

Pathways - the patterns or designs made in the air or on the floor by the person's movements; pathways appear as straight lines, curved lines or combinations of straight and curved lines

Shape - the design of the body's position

Size - the magnitude of the body shape or movement; size is on a continuum of small to large.

Middle years students will continue to explore the space concepts of directions, focus, levels, shape and size. In addition, students in the middle years will:

- make connections between space and the expressive potential of movements
- extend their ability to use the whole body to clearly articulate spatial designs and pathways
- understand that focus involves using the whole body to direct attention toward and influence the expression of their movements
- understand that focus is not only outwards but might be inwards toward the body
- recognize that personal space may be perceived as positive or negative.

Movement

- locomotor: walk, run, leap, hop, jump, skip, slide, gallop
- nonlocomotor: bend, twist, stretch, swing
- leading/following

Time

- fast/medium/slow
- with music/without music

Space

- levels: low, medium, high
- direction: forward, backward, sideways, diagonal, turning
- focus: straight/curved, open/closed

Energy

- strong/light
- sharp/smooth

Body

- **shape:** the body can contort itself into different shapes (i.e., curves, angles)
- parts: the arms, legs, head, toes, fingers can take on different focuses (i.e., open, closed, relaxed)

Tips for Teaching the Creative Dance Lesson

Creative dance lessons require students to be active learners. Students are experiencing, gaining knowledge, experimenting and facilitating at the same time. Often there is a social dimension where students are working with partners or in groups. To facilitate students' learning in the creative dance lesson, teachers will need to be interactive - constantly coaching, guiding and discussing with the students. Following are tips which will help the teacher in the creative dance lesson.*

- Set a warm and accepting atmosphere where students feel safe and free to take risks. Show enthusiasm. Join the students in the activities whenever possible to help establish trust between the teacher and the students.
- Set ground rules to keep the lesson running smoothly. For example, students should know they are to start and stop on a signal from the teacher, or where the boundaries of the dance space are.
- Establish general space awareness early to ensure students do not bump into each other.
- Use themes and topics of interest to the students.
- Use the voice effectively. Coach the students while they move, but be clear and loud enough so that they can hear. Say words to convey their meanings, thereby encouraging students to respond in that way; for example, s t r e e e e e t c h.
- Use images to stimulate the students' imaginations and develop their movement qualities. Use a rich vocabulary of adjectives and adverbs. Use a variety of images to encourage students to explore several possibilities. For example, tell students to hop lightly as if they are on clouds, or hot sand. Remember that imagery can also limit students if used incorrectly. Do not ask students to "be" something or else that is all you will get. For example, asking students to hop like rabbits will more than likely result in a classroom of students hopping like rabbits and not exploring the many ways of hopping.
- Use visual aids to get ideas across to students whenever possible. For example, use a slinky to show bending, slithering actions; an elastic to show stretching movements; a ball to show bouncing movements.
- Use percussion instruments and music to help stimulate the children to move. For example, a crashing drum could encourage students to leap high off of the ground.
- It is important that even in dance's simplest form, students have a complete dance experience.
- Stillness is important. Stillness is not a state of "not doing", but rather a state of ready alertness a mental and emotional preparation for the ensuing activity.
- Use repetition. Children get satisfaction from learning a phrase of movement and repeating it.
- Make the lesson challenging. Demand excellence.
- e generous with praise for the students' quality efforts.

[&]quot;Tips for Teaching Creative Dance Lesson" was adapted from Physical Education Elementary School Dance and Rhythmical Activities, A Teacher Handbook for Kindergarten, Division I and II, Saskatchewan Education, 1981.

Dance Glossary

Actions

What the body is doing. Includes locomotor and non-locomotor movements; for example, running, jumping, twisting, gesturing, turning.

Alignment

Body placement or posture; proper alignment lessens body strain and promotes dance skills.

Asymmetry

Uneven, irregular design.

Body bases

Body parts which support the rest of the body. For example, when standing, the feet are the body base; when kneeling, the knees are the body base.

Body parts

Arms, legs, head, torso, etc.

Body zones

Body areas of right side, left side, front, back, upper half, lower half

Binary form

Two-part structure; AB.

Chance form

A choreographic form which is determined randomly; for example, by the roll of dice.

Choreographic form

See form.

Collage form

A choreographic form which unifies assorted fragments into a whole.

Contrast

A principle of composition. See Foundational Objectives for detailed description.

Dance phrase

A logical sequence of movements with an observable beginning, middle and end.

Diorama

Small, three-dimensional representation of a scene.

Directions

Forward, backward, sideways, up and down.

Duration

The length of time needed to do a movement; very short to very long.

Dynamics

The dance element which relates to how a movement is done.

Even rhythm

Movements of equal duration; for example, walking.

Energy

Muscular tension used to move; ranges from a little to a lot.

Form

Structure of dance compositions.

General space

The dance area.

Kinesphere

See personal space.

Levels

Movements might take place on three levels: high level, middle level, and low or deep level.

Locomotor movements

Movements which travel from one location to another.

Maquette

Small preliminary model or sketch.

Metric rhythm

The grouping of beats in a recurring pattern.

Motif description

Symbol system which notates the outline of movement.

Movement sequence

Movements which are ordered in succession.

Movement vocabulary

All the actions the body can make.

Narrative form

A choreographic form which tells a story.

Non-locomotor movements

Also called axial; movements which do not travel; moving or balancing on the spot.

Notation

Method for recording movements and dances.

Organic form

A choreographic form in which the dance grows naturally out of itself.

Pathways

Patterns or designs created on the floor or in the air by movements of the body.

Personal space

Also called kinesphere; the space reached while stationary.

Principles of composition

Methods which help sequence movements into a whole.

Oualities

Characteristics of a movement.

Relationships

The body's position relative to something or someone.

RepetitionB

A principle of composition. See Foundational Objectives for detailed description.

Rondo form

A dance structure with three or more themes where one theme is repeated; ABACAD....

Sequencing

A principle of composition. See Foundational Objectives for a detailed description.

Shape

The design of a body's position.

Size

Magnitude of a body shape or movement; from small to large.

Speed

Velocity of movements; from slow to fast.

Symmetry

A balanced, even design.

Ternary form

Three-part structure; ABA.

Theme and variation

A-A1-A2-A3.... A choreographic form which begins with an original idea or theme and in following sections departs or deviates from the original, while still retaining some connection to the original.

Time signature

A symbol that denotes a metric rhythm; for example, 3/4, 4/4. Transition

A principle of composition. See Foundational Objectives for a detailed description. Uneven rhythms

Movements of unequal duration; for example, skipping.

Unity

A principle of composition. See Foundational Objectives for a detailed description. Variety

A principle of composition. See Foundational Objectives for a detailed description. Workshopping

A strategy where dance compositions are shown as works-in-progress for discussion and feedback



Student Guide

Elements of Dance

Movement

- locomotor: walk, run, leap, hop, jump, skip, slide, gallop
- nonlocomotor: bend, twist, stretch, swing
- leading/following

Time

- fast/medium/slow
- with music/without music

Space

- levels: low, medium, high
- direction: forward, backward, sideways, diagonal, turning
- focus: straight/curved, open/closed

Energy

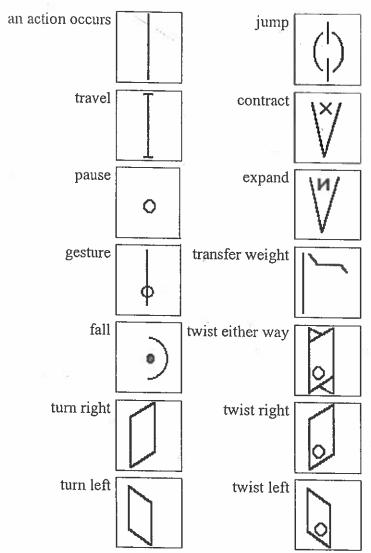
- strong/light
- sharp/smooth

Body

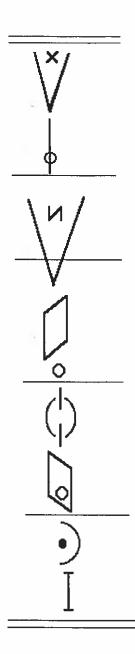
- **shape:** the body can contort itself into different shapes (i.e., curves, angles)
- parts: the arms, legs, head, toes, fingers can take on different focuses (i.e., open, closed, relaxed)

Appendix B Motif Description

Motif Description is a symbol system which notates the outline of movement. Motif writing, developed by V. Preston-Dunlop, is based on Labanotation. Symbols are written in columns and read from the bottom upwards, left to right. The following are action symbols which will help teachers and students get started. There are also symbols for other aspects of movement including the body, dynamics, space and relationships. For further information, please refer to resources on notation listed in Arts Education: A Bibliography for Grades 6 to 8.



Here is an example of a dance phrase written in Motif Description. The phrase is in 2/4 metre and read from bottom to top as follows: travel, fall, twist to the left, jump, pause, turn to the right, expand, contract. When executing this phrase, the actions could be done in any way; for example, travelling could be crawling, hopping, rolling; twist to the left could be an arm twisting or the whole body twisting.





MOVEMENT WORDS

Tra	velling	71. mash
		72. loiter
	agitate	73. loli
	amble approach	74. padding 75. perambulate
4.	arrive	75. perambulate 776. pivot
5.	away	77. plod
6.	beg	78. plop
7. 8.	blowing bounce	79. poke 80. prance
9.	bound	80. prance 81. propel
10.	bridge	82. prowi
11.	brush	83. pull
12. 13.	bump bustle	84. push
4.4	canter	85. rake 86. raise
15.	caper	87. rattle
	carry	88. rebound
17. 18.	cast catapult	89. return
19.	•	90. revolve 91. roll
20.	charge	92. rotate
21.		93. rove
22.	clump coast	94. rumble
	confine	95. run 96. rush
25.	crash	97. saunter
26.		98. scamper
27. 28.		99. scrape
29.	creep crush	100. scratch 101. scurry
30.	dance	102. seek
31.		103. shimmy
্	dash	104. shiver
ì.	dawdle deport	105. shoot 106. shove
	drag	107. shudder
	dodge	108. shuffle
	drifting	109. skip
	fetch flap	110. shift 111. shuck
	flee	112. skedaddle
	fling	113. skim
42.	follow fondle	114. slam
43. 44.	fluctuate	115. slide 116. slink
45.	fly	117. slink
46.	gallop	118. slither
47.	grinding	119. slope
48. 49.	grovel hammer	120. sneak 121. soar
50.	hasten	121. soar 122. speed
51.	haul	123. spun
52.	hike	124. spring
53. 54.	hobble	125. squirm
55.	hop hud	126. stalk 127. steal
56.	hurdle	128. step
57.		129. squeeze
	hurry	130. surge
59. 60.		131. straggle 132. stride
61.	jiggle	132. stroli
62.	joint	134. stub
^3,	jump	135. slither
•	kick lash	136. sway
36.	leave	137. swelling 138. sweeping
67.	limp	139. sweeping
68.	lurch	140. swirt
69.	lean	141 tan

141. tap

142. tear

leap

70. march

143. throw 144. thump 145. tip-toe 146. toss 147. travel 148. tremble 149, trip 150. trot 151. truck 152, trudge 153, tumble 154, turn 155. twirl 156, twitch 157, twisting 158. undulate 159. vault 160, walk 161, wander 162. whip 163, whirl 164, whizzing 165, wiggle 166. wind 167. wing 168, worm 169, waddle 170, wade 171, wander 172. wave 173. adjust Stationary 174, agitate 175. arise 176. arrange 177, awake 178. babble 179. beat 180. beg 181. bend 182. blink 183, bloom 184. blow-up 185. boiling 186, bridge 187. bulge 188, burst 189, cave-in 190. clap 191, climb 192. close 193. collapse 194, contact 195, crank 196, create 197, crouch 198, dance 199. deflate 200. descend 201. destroy 202. develop 203, dia

204. diminish

206. dribble

205. dip

207, drip

208. drop

209. droop

210. drown

211. elevate

212. embrace

217. fall 218. fidget 219, flag 220. fling 221. flip 222. flex 223. flail 224, flake 225. flapping 226. free 227. grow 228. git 229. huddle 230. inflate 231. inhale 232, jiggle 233. jingle 234. lash 235. liberate 236. leer 237. life 238. loosen 239. flit 240. power 241. mirror 242, mumble 243. open 244. oscillate 245. patter 246. perk 247, perch 248, pinching 249. pivot 250, plucking 251. poke 252, popping 253. pound 254, protrude 255. puff 256. pull 257. pulsate 258. pumping 259, punch 260, quiver 261. rack 262. raise 263, reach 264. release 265, repeat 266, rock 267. rotate 268. rise 269. rub 270. scowl 271, shake 272. shiver 273. shrivel 274. shrink 275. sink 276. slap 277. snap 278. spin 279. spotting 280. sprain 281. spread 282. sprouting 283. stir

284, stretch

213. exhale

214, expand

215. explore

216, extend

285. stooping 286. striking 287. swat 288. sway 289. swell 290. swing 291. swirl 292. swivel 293, take 294, tense 295. throw 296, throbbing 297. thump 298, tighten 299. tickle 300, tremble 301. trickle 302, toss 303. twirl 304. twitch 305, unwind 306, vault 307. vibrate 308. wash 309, wither 310. wriggle 311. wrinkle 312. wobble

Stopping 313. alight 314, anchor 315. balance 316, blend 317. bind 318. burst 319, clutch 320, clasping 321. close 322. cringe 323, crunch 324. cuddle 325. curl 326. deflate 327. die 328. disappear 329. dive 330. droop 331, drop 332. enclose 333. enfold 334, expire 335, faint 336, fall 337, fasten 338. fix 339. fade 340. fold 341. freeze 342. grab 343. grasp 344. grip 345. harden 346, hesitate 347, hook 348, hunt 349. inflate

Remember to use when developing your dance:

Elements of dance:

1. Actions & Movement: leading and following

-locomotor: walk, run, leap, jumo, skip, slide, gallop

-non-locomotor: bend, twist, stretch, swing, expand, contract,

2. Body:

-shape: the body contorts into different shapes, curves, angles

-parts: upper body or lower body, movement of arms, legs, toes,

fingers, and different focus(open, closed, mixed)

3. Dynamics:

- fast/medium/slow

-energy: strong/light or sharp/smooth

4. Relationships: with others in unison

-in a group where each have own of parts

-with or without props

5. Space:

-levels: low/medium/ high

-direction: forward, backward, sideways, diagonal, turning

-focus: straight/curved, open/closed,

-pathways: zigzag, curvy, symmetrical, uneven etc.









Choreography	Choreography:						
Group Name:							
Members:	Members:						
Theme or ide	Theme or idea being communicated:						
Prop:	til						
Song:							
lovement phrase	Movement phrase	Movement Phrase					
A:	В:	C:					

Form: example A B A C A

Sample Checklist for Evaluating Creative Processes

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di .		11				
Examples of Possible Criteria						
Contributes ideas to explore the theme or concept						
Contributes to discussion and brainstorming activities						
Extends the theme or concept(s) in a new direction						<u> </u>
Develops one aspect of theme or concept(s) in detail						
Transfers knowledge of the theme or concept into personal art works						
Explores several ideas						
Takes risks by exploring something new to him or her						
Shows interest in the arts experience						9.5
Shows commitment toward the experience of creating						
Challenges self				_		
Describes what did and did not work in personal experience						
Identifies what he or she would like to change in order to improve the arts expression			i			
Describes what his or her own arts expression means personally						
Maintains awareness of personal intentions in arts expression						
Shows concentration in arts experiences				Ut.		
Discusses why choices were made		ý.				
Describes images, sensations, or ideas evoked by the arts experience						
Contributes ideas when working in groups						
Works co-operatively within the group	\$35					
Works independently	<u>\$</u>					
					5	
Comments:						

	Anecdota Template	l Record-ke	eping Forn					
	Foundational	Objective(s):	Early	Date:				
	3- Very	gorod factory	ark					
	1 - needs a little Work Criteria/Objectives							
	Students' Names	all members are constantly in movement or in a position	uses rhythm, patterns, and form	Uses a variety of low, medium and high movements	uses upper/l body to exp theme, emo- or ideas	oulr oress h'ons,		
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Other Comments: