

# **Using Dance with Children**

## **Learning Module**

This module provides resources to introduce children to dance concepts, resources for incorporating observational and descriptive language, ideas on guiding children in developing imagination and movement skills, and techniques to teach math and vocabulary while engaging in dance.

### **Included Resources and Experiences:**

1. Stages for Learning: The Dance Concept of Space
2. Creating a Self-Space Bubble
3. Using Body Shapes to Establish Straight and Curved Lines
4. Using Child-Directed Movement to Tell a Story
5. Adventure Cloth, Part 2

## **1. STAGES FOR LEARNING: THE DANCE CONCEPT OF SPACE**

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### **Developed by Rachel Knudson**

#### **Description and Objectives:**

In this experience, Wolf Trap Teaching Artist Rachel Knudson builds children's self-regulation by heightening body/spatial awareness as children navigate through general space while maintaining self-space.

#### **Associated Media:**

1. *Instructional Documentation: Stages for Learning: The Dance Concept of Space.pdf* (317.02 KB)
2. Video Demonstration

#### **You can find this individual content here:**

<https://education.wolftrap.org/content/stages-learning-dance-concept-space>

## **2. SELF-SPACE BUBBLE**

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### **Developed by Laura Schandelmeier**

#### **Description and Objectives:**

In this experience, Wolf Trap Teaching Artist Laura Schandelmeier demonstrates the importance of teaching self-space in order for children to move safely in the classroom, utilize movements and skills for dance, and promote self-regulation and classroom management.

**Associated Media:**

1. *Instructional Documentation: Self-Space Bubble.pdf* (709.87 KB)
2. Video Demonstration

**You can find this individual content here:**

<https://education.wolftrap.org/content/self-space-bubble>

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### **3. USING BODY SHAPES TO ESTABLISH STRAIGHT AND CURVED LINES**

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**Developed by Amanda Whiteman**

**Description and Objectives:**

In this experience, Wolf Trap Teaching Artist Amanda Whiteman demonstrates how to use body shape to establish straight and curved lines while encouraging children to use descriptive/observational language to communicate this understanding through movement.

**Associated Media:**

1. *Instructional Documentation: Using Body Shape To Establish Straight And Curved Lines.pdf* (698.8 KB)
2. Video Demonstration

**You can find this individual content here:**

<https://education.wolftrap.org/content/using-body-shape-establish-straight-and-curved-lines>

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### **4. USING CHILD-DIRECTED MOVEMENT TO TELL A STORY**

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**Developed by Amanda Whiteman**

**Description and Objectives:**

In this experience, Wolf Trap Teaching Artist Amanda Whiteman demonstrates how to use child-directed movement to represent characters and setting from a story as children follow positional words to develop spatial awareness skills and body in space.

**Associated Media:**

1. *Instructional Documentation: Using Child Directed Movement To Tell A Story.pdf* (621.53 KB)
2. Video Demonstration

**You can find this individual content here:**

<https://education.wolftrap.org/content/using-child-directed-movement-tell-story>

## 5. ADVENTURE CLOTH, PART 2

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**Developed by Terlene Terry-Todd**

**Description and Objectives:**

In this experience, Wolf Trap Teaching Artist Terlene Terry-Todd demonstrates a creative way to teach math and literacy skills using music, simple props, and themed fabric.

**Associated Media:**

1. *Instructional Documentation: Adventure Cloth Part 2.pdf* (271.38 KB)
2. Video Demonstration

**You can find this individual content here:**

<https://education.wolftrap.org/content/adventure-cloth-part-2>