

This book uses rhythmic wording to emphasize the ways children dance and move. The children in the book find different ways to move creatively in time with the music.

CORE SKILL OBJECTIVES

INTENTIONAL TEACHING PRACTICES

MOVE



Children will:

- ◆ Show an increasing awareness of the body for more coordinated movements and keeping steady beats

Teachers will:

- ◆ Narrate gross motor movements
- ◆ Encourage children to imitate movement

TEACHING TIP

Music and dance movement are great opportunities for challenging children’s coordination and balance. When we introduce different tempos, instruments, and beats, we give children the opportunity to try creative ways of moving. Clapping, stomping, spinning, and jumping in time with the beat are chances for children to practice awareness of their body in space. Increased coordination comes from these moments of engaging in physical skills and movements.

1. INTRODUCE

- ◆ “Jazz music is fun to dance to. It can include the sound of the piano, drums, bass, and singing. In this book, *Jazz Baby*, we’ll see how the children make jazz music and choose different ways to dance. We will try out our own way of dancing too!”

2. READ THE BOOK

- ◆ Pause occasionally to narrate the musical beats and types of movements the children in the book perform.
- ◆ Encourage children to keep a beat with their bodies in movements or in dancing, as much as they are able.

Narrate Gross Motor Movements

Read: “...tap your feet. Snap your fingers, happy beat.”

Narrate: “This child is using their fingers to snap (*demonstrate snapping*), and they are tapping their foot to keep the beat (*demonstrate tapping your foot in a steady beat*).”

Encourage: “Can you tap your feet to this beat with me? Tap, tap, tap. You’re choosing to stomp, that’s another way to keep the beat with your feet!”

Read: “...swing and sway. Shake and shimmy, dance all day.”

Narrate: “This child is dancing with their hands over their head, they are swaying their body to the music.”

Encourage: “How would you move your body and arms to music? I see you moved away from others so you have enough space for your dance.”

Read: “Bounce and boogie, bebop-de-bop”

Narrate: “These children are hopping with both feet off the ground! Boogie is another word for dancing.”

Encourage: “Let’s bounce and boogie like the children in the story! You’re jumping up, I wonder if you’ll try jumping with both feet off the ground?”

3. REVIEW

- ◆ “You moved your bodies to the beat, and you danced like the children in the book did! Music can give us a lot of ideas about how to move around. Maybe we should listen to some jazz music today!”

4. KEEP IT GOING

- ◆ When playing music, encourage children to find ways to keep a steady beat. Model clapping, tapping your foot, or swaying in time with the beat of the music. As children get comfortable keeping steady beats, encourage them to find new ways to rhythmically move their bodies to music. Examples of jazz artists to play include Miles Davis, Ella Fitzgerald, Herbie Hancock, and Louis Armstrong.