


This book shows the different dance styles of people around the world. It highlights the many ways that bodies can move to music and encourages children to try out different movements themselves.

CORE SKILL OBJECTIVES		INTENTIONAL TEACHING PRACTICES
 MOVE	Children will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Show increasing awareness of their body in space Demonstrate more coordinated movement 	Teachers will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage children to imitate movement

TEACHING TIP

Children need ample time and space to independently develop gross motor skills (large muscle movements). As they gain abilities and control over their body movements, children can increasingly move in purposeful ways to achieve their goals. We can support these skills by giving children plenty of opportunities to try out movements, and to introduce new movement ideas based on observations – allow them to take risks! Dance is not only a chance for creative movement ideas to form, but it also encourages the development of balance, coordination, and spatial awareness.

1. INTRODUCE

- “It can be really fun to move our bodies to music – who likes to dance? There are so many different ways to dance, and different people have different ways of moving their bodies. In this book, *Let's Dance*, there are children around the world who have very creative ways of dancing. We can try them out ourselves!”

2. READ THE BOOK

- Pause occasionally to narrate the movements the children in the book are doing.
- Encourage children to move their bodies like the characters, or in any way they choose and are able to.

Encourage Children to Imitate Movement		
<p>Read: “twist, whirl”</p> <p>Ask: “What kind of movement are these characters doing? How are they moving like that?”</p> <p>Encourage: “Yes, it looks like spinning! You noticed their feet are turning and their arms are out. You can try to twirl, too. You’re putting your arms out for balance, and you’re spinning around!”</p>	<p>Read: “Bust a move”</p> <p>Ask: “What body parts are these children using to do their dance?”</p> <p>Encourage: “Yes, you saw that some children are on their hands, and some are on their heads! Can you find a different part of your body to move? I see you did your big tumble move in a different direction to make sure you didn’t bump anyone!”</p>	<p>Read: “fly, fly, fly!”</p> <p>Ask: “What are these characters doing with their bodies?”</p> <p>Encourage: “Yes, it looks like they’re jumping up and standing on their feet. They’re jumping so high that it looks like they’re flying! Can you try to fly? You’re standing on your tippy-toes, and then jumping with your arms up to fly!”</p>

3. REVIEW

- “The children in this book danced and moved in so many different ways. Everyone has different ideas, and everyone has different ways that they can move. It’s exciting to try out new ways to dance.”

4. KEEP IT GOING

- Have music available as a choice for children during Choice Time. Ideal music choices to encourage creative and open-ended dance movements are songs without words, and that reflect the cultures and backgrounds of the children in your learning environment.