

**TITLE:**

Bag of Dances: Using Objects to Inspire Movement Patterns

**DEVELOPED BY:**

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**ART FORM:**

- Dance/Movement  
 Drama  
 Music  
 Puppetry  
 Multi-disciplinary / \_\_\_\_\_

**OBJECTIVE(S)/GOAL:**

Children will be able to:

- explore body shape and curved/straight lines in their body shapes
- practice using descriptive/observational language
- continue to explore ways to record observations
- explore/observe the movements of objects and transfer that observation onto their bodies
- create simple pattern sequences

**CHILDREN'S PRIOR KNOWLEDGE NECESSARY FOR THIS EXPERIENCE:**

- understanding that a body shape is a frozen position of the body
- recognition of straight and curved lines
- understanding of the word "observation"
- basic familiarity with the concept of pattern

**VOCABULARY:****Arts Vocabulary**

Breath

Tactile

Core/Distal

Head/Tail

Upper/Lower

Body/Side

Cross lateral

Vestibular

Body shape (straight/curved shape)

Freeze dance

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**Curriculum Content Vocabulary**

Core/Pattern  
Straight/Curved line  
Observation  
Record

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**MATERIALS NEEDED:**

Bag with manipulatives/props

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**MAIN EXPERIENCE:****Introduction**

Introduce the observation box. Review: *What does it mean to observe? What senses do we need to be good observers? Explore the objects inside the observation box. How do they move? What do they look like? What words can you use to describe them?* Create a list of our observational language; for example, wiggly, bent, straight, bouncy... *How can you make your arms move like that? Can we stand up and move our whole bodies like that?*

**Main Experience**

Develop a movement vocabulary for the objects in the box with the children.

Create and practice a sequence of four movements based on our objects.

Have the children choose 3 of the actions to become the “core” of the pattern, use picture cards of the objects to lay out a repeating pattern ABCABCABC.

Create and lead a new pattern based on objects AABAAB.

**Closing**

Assessment of the children's understanding of straight and curved line in body shape, observation language, and patterns within dance movement (see intentional questions below).

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**INTENTIONAL QUESTIONS:****Open-Ended (i.e. children contributing possibilities, thoughts)**

What do you observe? What do you notice?

Do you see any curved lines -- where? Any straight lines - where?

What does it mean to observe?

What senses do we need to be good observers?

How do the objects in the box move? What do they look like? What words can you use to describe them?

What other patterns can we make with our objects?

**Demonstration (i.e. “show me...”)**

How can you make your arms move like the objects?

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Can you stand up and move your whole bodies like that?

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**MODIFICATION:**

**Possible extension experiences for the classroom and/or for parents to enhance learning:**

Hand out pictures of children in frozen body shapes, and have the children use a marker to draw on the image where they notice straight or curved lines.

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