



## **stART smART Network Dance Goals and Objectives**

The purpose of stART smART Network Dance residencies is to support and enable each child to achieve movement capabilities appropriate to her/his own age and developmental level. The learning objectives are guidelines for planning and evaluating Dance residencies. These objectives are based on the standards for dance in early childhood as published by the National Dance Education Organization. They are organized in the four categories of Performing, Creating, Responding and Inter-Connecting. For the purpose of this research only a select portion of the movement standards will be used for measurement of learning due to the limited time period of the residencies. However additional movement concepts may be woven into the lessons as appropriate. Learning objectives and achievement standards in line with the Head Start Child Outcomes Framework are asterisked\*.

### **Learning Objectives for Children**

#### **PERFORMING DANCE**

*Children will perform improvised and/or choreographed movement using the elements of body, space, and time.*

Objective: Children show growing abilities to understand and enjoy dance.

##### **Achievement Standards: BODY**

- a. Accurately identify and demonstrate the non-locomotor/axial movements of balance, bend, flap, kick, pull, push, rock, stamp, stretch, shake, stillness, swing, turn, twist, and wiggle.
- b. Accurately identify and demonstrate the locomotor movements of crawl (creep), gallop, hop, jump, leap, march, prance, roll, run, skip, slide, slither and walk (when developmentally appropriate).

##### **Achievement Standards: SPACE**

- a. Ability to move in self space and in general space.
- b. Ability to move in different directions (forward and backward, sideways, up and down, away and toward, diagonally, turning)
- c. Ability to create different body shapes (curved, straight and twisted shapes with their body).
- d. Ability to move in different levels (create high, middle and low shapes).
- e. Ability to move in different pathways (straight, curved, circular, diagonal, and zig zag).

##### **Achievement Standards: TIME**

- a. Ability to move to a steady beat\*
- b. Ability to stop and start on cue.
- c. Ability to respond in movement to changes in tempo and rhythm.\*
- d. Ability to create and repeat rhythmic movement.

## **CREATING DANCE**

*Creating dance involves inventing or choreographing movement or finding movement solutions to a given problem.*

Objective: The children show growing abilities to understand dance as a way to express ideas, experiences, and/or feelings.

Achievement Standard: The children invent new ways to dance axial and locomotor movements.

Achievement Standard: The children create a movement sequence with a beginning, middle, and end.

## **RESPONDING**

*Children respond to dance both verbally and with movement from the role of creator, performer or audience member.*

Objective: Children show growing ability to apply and demonstrate critical and creative thinking skills in dance\*

Achievement Standard: Observe or perform dance and identify axial and locomotor movements.

Achievement Standard: Use basic dance terms to talk about a performance they have seen.

## **INTER-CONNECTING**

Objective: The children will make connections between dance, language, and literature\*

Achievement Standard: Children use movement to express images, ideas, and feelings in books.

Achievement Standard: Children use words to express the meaning, feelings, and images that are danced\*

## **Learning Objectives for Classroom Teachers**

### **PERFORMING DANCE**

Objective: Teachers will develop a basic understanding of dance vocabulary as it relates to the body, space, and time.

Achievement Standard: The teachers identify the movement vocabulary as used and demonstrated by the Teaching Artist.

Achievement Standard: The teachers apply movement vocabulary in the development of their movement lessons.

### **CREATING**

Objective: Teachers develop abilities to create and manage safe movement activities for young children.

Achievement Standard: Teachers demonstrate understanding of the dance lesson format and the purpose of each part of the lesson plan, including the transition from one activity to the next.

Achievement Standard: Teachers develop and apply strategies that help them manage the class as well as encourage individual creativity.

### **RESPONDING**

Objective: Teachers apply and demonstrate critical and creative thinking skills in working with children in a dance lesson.

Achievement Standard: Teachers identify and acknowledge the dance creations of their students.

Achievement Standard: Teachers lead students in creating a dance phrase with a beginning, middle, and end using movements created by the students.

### **INTER-CONNECTING**

Objective # 1: Teachers will make connections between dance, language, and literature.

Achievement Standard: Teachers identify language and literature that is conducive to a movement experience.

Achievement Standard: Teachers develop language/literature based dance activities for their students.

Objective # 2: Teachers will develop understandings and skills to apply computer technologies to support the learning and practice of stART smART objectives, strategies, actions, and evaluations.

Achievement Standard: Using the computer to help plan and carry out dance-based emergent literacy activities.

Achievement Standard: Using stART smART online resources to help plan and carry out dance-based emergent literacy activities.

Achievement Standard: Using stART smART online resources to share ideas, practices, and experiences with the Wolf Trap community of teachers and artists.

Achievement Standard: Using stART smART online resources to help in the evaluation of children, teaching artists, and themselves.

### **Learning Objectives for Teaching Artists**

Objective # 1: Teaching artists will be able to design and facilitate dance-based emergent literacy residencies and individual lessons that place children ages 3-5 at the center of learning.

Achievement Standard: Develop and implement residencies that provide sequential learning opportunities for children ages 3-5.

Achievement Standard: Develop and implement individual lesson plans that are *simple, direct, and concrete* in terms of dance learning objectives and emergent literacy connections, achievement standards, and the active involvement of children ages 3-5.

Achievement Standard: Select appropriate books and develop lesson plans that use language from the book as a springboard to dance lessons.

Achievement Standard: Develop abilities to apply assessment methods that describe and measure dance and emergent literacy learning indicators among children ages 3-5.

Objective # 2: Teaching artists will be able to lead dance activities for children ages 3-5.

Achievement Standard: Safely guide children in movement experiences by providing clear directions so that children know what is expected of them.

Achievement Standard: Guide children to kinesthetically recognize movement concepts by requesting them to perform specific tasks.

Achievement Standard: Guide children to create new movement based on dance concepts by forming appropriate leading questions.

Achievement Standard: Guide children to visually recognize movement concepts through thoughtful observation of others performing the movement.

Achievement Standard: Promote the use of language by asking age appropriate questions that lead children to discover and communicate their ideas in relation to the movement and the book.

### **Teaching Classroom Teachers and Teaching Artists**

Objective # 1: Teaching artists will be able to design and facilitate residencies and individual lessons that provide sequential learning opportunities for classroom teachers.

Achievement Standard: Identify appropriate “starting point” in terms of teacher knowledge and comfort level.

Achievement Standard: Collaborate with teachers to build skills and confidence in planning and carrying out dance experiences.

Achievement Standard: Offer specific and appropriate opportunities within individual lessons over the course of the residency for classroom teachers to lead a portion of the Teaching Artist’s activity.

Achievement Standard: Offer guidance, support, and feedback for the teachers as they plan and carry out their classroom dance activities.

Objective # 2: Teaching artists will be able to train other Wolf Trap teaching artists and classroom teachers in objectives, strategies, and practices of the stART smART dance project.

Achievement Standard: Develop training materials, methods, and activities for Wolf Trap artist conferences and stART smART artist clinics.

Achievement Standard: Develop training materials, methods, and activities for classroom teacher training Institutes.

Objective # 3: Teaching artists will develop understandings and skills to apply computer technologies to support the learning and practice of stART smART objectives, strategies, actions, and evaluations.

Achievement Standard: Using the computer to help plan and carry out dance-based emergent literacy residencies and individual lessons.

Achievement Standard: Using stART smART online resources to help plan and carry out dance-based emergent literacy residencies and individual lessons.

Achievement Standard: Supporting classroom teachers in using stART smART online resources to plan and carry out dance-based emergent literacy residencies, individual lessons, and evaluation activities.

Achievement Standard: Using stART smART online resources to share ideas, practices, and experiences with the Wolf Trap community of teachers and artists.

Achievement Standard: Using stART smART online resources to help in the evaluation of children, teachers, and themselves.