Dance Grades 3-K-2 choice: Action Word Hunt

Watch a welcome video from Glenn Allen Sims and Linda Celeste Sims, Dance soloists from the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater.

Objectives-
Students and their families will:
• Engage children and adults in a fun movement game
• Explore and perform several action words
• Create movement sentences. That is, create movement sequences comprised of 2 or more action words
• Watch Paul Taylor’s dance Esplanade and discuss the dance

Instructions
Step #1: Write these six action words on cards
• Walk
• Run
• Roll
• Skip
• Spin
• Fall

Step #2: Hide the cards!
For parents: Find a moment to hide the cards around your home (indoors or out). Under a chair, on a desk, in the kitchen, by the door, etc.
Step #3: Invite children to hunt for the cards.
  • When each word is found, try it out. Say the word and do the movement.
  • Then place the word on a table or other surface.
  • As each word is found add it to the MOVEMENT SENTENCE until all the words are found.
    • For example: Walk... Walk, Run... Walk, Run, Spin...

Step #4: Choose 3 or 4 of the Action Words
  • Make a MOVEMENT SENTENCE with 3 or 4 of the action words
  • Remember the sequence and make your dance
  • Try it many times...
  • Do it sometimes fast...sometimes slow...sometimes high...sometimes low
  • Take some pictures or video of your dance

Step #5: Relax and watch *Esplanade*
  • *Watch this section* of *Esplanade* by choreographer Paul Taylor
  • Notice how the dance uses the same movements in different ways.
  • What other actions did you see?
  • How does this dance make you feel?