

## **BAG/ BOX OF DANCES**

(A WOLFTRAP EDUCATION TOOL: Using Objects to Inspire Movement Patterns, Observation, Prediction, Science Concept Understanding and Exploration, Sequencing)

(SCIENCE – GEOMETRY- DANCE- MOVEMENT)

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**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

**Curriculum Content Vocabulary** Core/Pattern Straight/Curved line Observation Record

**MATERIALS NEEDED:** Bag/Box with Manipulatives/props/ objects/ Visuals pertaining to lesson, theme, concepts.

### **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).

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