

Exploring Listening Through Movement

Objective: Students will create movements to illustrate the musical recording they hear.

Grade Level: 4th grade.

Colorado Standard(s):

Students will

- Listen to, analyze, evaluate, and describe music.

Materials needed:

- Recordings of different styles of music.
 - o “*Variations of a Theme from Pachelbel’s Canon in D Major*”- David Lanz
 - o “Hungarian Dance No. 6” by Johannes Brahms
 - o “Surprise Symphony” Joseph Haydn
 - o “In the Mood” – BBC Big Band Orchestra
 - o “*Rachmaninoff: Prelude in C Sharp minor Op. 3 No. 2*” – Alexis Weissenberg
 - o “Satie: Gymnopedie No. 1”- Aldo Ciccolini
 - o “*Gottschalk: Le Banjo Op. 15 RO 22*” – Cecile Licad
 - o “Sakkijarven Polka” - The Swingle Singers
- Paper and pencil/pen

Procedure:

- Tell students to write down words that describe the music they hear using any creative words they want.
- Discuss some of the words students came up with after each example.
- Ask: are we limited by describing music with just our words? How can we describe music in other ways?
- Explain how movement can be a great way to illustrate/describe music.
- Divide students into groups of 4-5 and have them think of movements to portray a piece of music of their choice.
- Each will perform in front of class.
- The class will give feedback about each group’s movements.

Assessment:

Informative: Students will be able to use any creative movements to complement their chosen piece.

Formative: Students will write and evaluate each group’s performance.

The science standard I want to use to enhance this lesson is Standard 1. Physical Science. It states, “Students can use the full range of science and engineering practices to make sense of natural phenomena and solve problems that require understanding how waves are used to transfer energy and information.” I want to see how we can incorporate

technology to see the sound waves that are produced in different pieces of music. I also want to explore how the sound waves affect certain objects (paper, marbles, blocks, liquid, etc.). I think this would be a fun way to get my kids a hands-on experience how music affects the world around us. Finally, I want to create a movement piece where students can interpret the movements of the objects being tested into creative dance.