

# NATIONAL DANCE EDUCATION ORGANIZATION RESOURCES FOR DANCE EDUCATION IN EARLY CHILDHOOD

NDEO Member Feature: Available at NDEO  
**Standards for Dance in Early Childhood**  
By NDEO Early Childhood Task Force  
2005

## Teaching Creative Dance to Children:

NDEO Member Feature: Available at NDEO  
**Creative Dance for All Ages**  
By Anne Green Gilbert  
AAHPERD, 2006

*Creative Rhythmic Movement*, Gladys Andrews Fleming, Prentice Hall, Englewood, NJ, 1954.  
*Creative Dance for Learning*, Mary Ann Brehm and Lynne McNett, McGraw Hill, 2007.  
*Dancing in Your School*, Anne Dunkin, Princeton Books, NJ, 2007.  
*First Steps in Teaching Creative Dance to Children*, Mary Joyce, McGraw Hill, 1993.  
*Body Movement for Children*, Marion North, Macdonald & Evans, London, 1971.  
*Body, Mind, and Spirit in Action*, Patricia Reedy, Luna Kids Dance, Berkeley, CA, 2003.  
*Take a Chance . . . Let Them Dance: Validating Artistic Expression: Creativity is a key part of the educated mind.* Sir Ken Robinson . Proceedings of the 2006 TED conference, Edutopia, Oct 2006.  
*Out of Our Minds: Learning to Be Creative*, Sir Ken Robinson, Capstone Ltd, UK, 2001.  
*Dance & Grow*, Betty Rowen, Princeton Book Co., NJ, 1969.

## The Brain and Development:

NDEO Member Feature: Available at NDEO  
**Brain-Compatible Dance Education**  
By Anne Green Gilbert  
AAHPERD, 2006

## Resources

ACSD : Brain books, teacher resources, conferences, etc: [www.acsd.org](http://www.acsd.org)  
The Brain Connection : BrainBuzz, books, resources, articles, etc: [www.brainconnection.com](http://www.brainconnection.com)  
*Brain Gym*: [www.braingym.org](http://www.braingym.org)  
The Brain Store: [www.thebrainstore.com](http://www.thebrainstore.com) - resources by Eric Jensen  
Childcare Info-line: brain research and information for parents and caregivers <http://www.divine-DANA.com>  
[www.dana.org](http://www.dana.org) - brain related matters, including "Arts and the Brain" on NPR  
*Learning, Arts and the Brain: Dana Consortium Report on Arts and Cognition*, [http://www.dana.org/design.biz/childcareinfo/brain\\_development.htm](http://www.dana.org/design.biz/childcareinfo/brain_development.htm)  
Early Child: [www.earlychildhood.com](http://www.earlychildhood.com) - info on early childhood education  
Love and Logic: [www.loveandlogic.com](http://www.loveandlogic.com) - resources for parents and teachers on class management and care for children  
*The Learning Brain*: [www.learningbrain.com](http://www.learningbrain.com) - brain research, training tips, future of learning!  
National Association for Child Development (NACD): [www.nacd.org](http://www.nacd.org)  
National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC): [www.naeyc.org](http://www.naeyc.org)  
Project Zero, [www.pz.harvard.edu](http://www.pz.harvard.edu) -books, articles, research  
Talaris: Brain development 0-3, simple monthly articles on key points of child development: [www.talaris.org](http://www.talaris.org)  
Zero to three: useful info on cognitive, emotional and social development  
<http://www.zerotothree.org/brainwonders/parents.html>

## References

*The Brain That Changes Itself*, Norman Doidge, Penguin Books, 2007.  
*What's Going on in There? Brain Development and Early Learning*, Lise Eliot, Bantam Books, New York, 1999.  
*What Babies and Children Really Need*, Sally Goddard Blythe, Hawthorn Press, UK, 2008.

*The Well Balanced Child: Movement and Early Learning*, Sally Goddard Blythe, Hawthorn Press, UK, 2004.  
*Awakening the Child Heart: Handbook for Global Parenting*, Carla Hannaford, Jamilla Nur Publishing, Hawaii, 2002.  
*Smart Moves: Why Learning is Not All in Your Head*, Carla Hannaford, Great Ocean Publishers, Arlington, VA , 1995.  
*Hare Brain, Tortoise Mind: How Intelligence Increases When You Think Less*, Guy Claxton Harper, Perennial, 1999  
*Teaching With The Brain in Mind*, Eric Jensen, ASCD, Alexandria, VA, 1998.  
*Brain Rules*, John Medina, Pear Press, 2008.  
*Kids Learn from the Inside Out*, Shirley Randolph, Margot Heiniger (541-575-2413) 1998.  
*A User's Guide to the Brain*, John Ratey, Vintage Books, 2001.  
*Spark: The Revolutionary New Science of Exercise and the Brain*, John Ratey, 2008.  
*Amazing Babies*, Beverly Stokes. www.amazingbabies.com  
*The Art of Changing the Brain*, James E. Zull. Sterling, VA: Stylus Publishing, 2002.

## Educational Theory & Research:

NDEO Member Feature: Available at NDEO  
**Teaching the Three R's Through Movement Experiences**  
 By Anne Green Gilbert  
 AAHPERD, 2006

*Actual Minds, Possible Worlds*, Jerome Bruner, Harvard University Press, Cambridge, MA: 1986.  
*Critical Links: Learning in the Arts and Student Academic and Social Development*, Richard J. Deasy, Editor. Arts Education Partnership. Washington, D.C. 2002.  
*Primer for Movement Description Using Effort/Shape*, Cecily Dell  
*Experience and Education*, John Dewey, Macmillan, NY, 1938.  
*Teaching Academics Through Movement*, Becky Ellis, UT, 1996.  
*Frames of Mind*, Howard Gardner, HarperCollins, NY, 1983.  
*Multiple Intelligences*, Howard Gardner, HarperCollins, 1991.  
*A Child's Conception of the World*, Jean Piaget, W.W. Norton, NY, 1963.  
*The Impact of Whirlwind's Basic Reading Through Dance Program on First Grade Students' Basic Reading Skills*, 20, Dale Rose, 2002.  
*Dance for Young Children: Finding the Magic in Movement*, Susan Stinson, AAHPERD, Reston, VA, 1988.  
*Piaget's Theory of Cognitive and Affective Development*, 4<sup>th</sup> ed., Barry Wadsworth, Longman, NY, 1989.  
*Move to Greatness*, Ginny Whitelaw, Betsy Wetzig. Nicholas Brealey Int., 2008.  
*Arts Integration Frameworks, Research & Practice: A Literature Review*, 2007  
[http://www.artsforla.org/forum/seminal\\_arts\\_integration\\_publications](http://www.artsforla.org/forum/seminal_arts_integration_publications)

The Art of Collaboration: Promising Practices for Integrating the Arts and School Reform (2008), [http://aep-arts.org/publications/info.htm?publication\\_id=35](http://aep-arts.org/publications/info.htm?publication_id=35)

AIMprint: New Relationships in the Arts and Learning:  
<http://ww2.americansforthearts.org/vango/core/orders/product.aspx?catid=3&prodid=856>

Renaissance in the classroom: arts integration and meaningful learning  
[http://books.google.com/books?id=jbbqgjimU-gC&dq=renaissance+in+the+classroom&source=gbs\\_summary\\_s&cad=0](http://books.google.com/books?id=jbbqgjimU-gC&dq=renaissance+in+the+classroom&source=gbs_summary_s&cad=0)

NDEO Member Feature  
 On the Move – FREE DOWNLOAD from Suzi Tortora  
 Highlights - through simple language and basic activities - why  
 movement is so important for all levels of the young child's  
 development - it can be ordered by Zero to Three as a booklet and is  
 also a free download from Suzi's website: [dancingdialogue.com](http://dancingdialogue.com) - follow  
 the free download tab.

On The Move, Suzi Tortora & C. Lerner, C. , Zero to Three Press, Washington, DC 2004.

*The Dancing Dialogue: Using the Communicative Power of Movement with Young Children*, Suzi Tortora, (2006).  
Paul H Brookes Publishing Co., Baltimore, MD, 2006.

NDEO Member Feature: Available at NDEO

The Dancing Dialogue: Using the Communicative Power of Movement with Young Children.  
By Suzi Tortora  
Paul H Brookes Publishing Co, 2006

Offers insights for using dance “therapeutically in the special education or integrative classroom; adding group dance sessions to the curriculum; elements of a creative dance class including a Laban-based curriculum; how to use the “feeling tone & energy” of the classroom to design your dance curriculum; how draw out each child’s unique expressive dance with examples of different types of children; nonverbal analysis of the overall classroom curriculum; adding movement activities to everyday classroom activities; and how to pick music.”

**Arts Advocacy:**

*Measuring Up to the Challenge: What Standards Can Do For Arts Education*, American Council for the Arts

*Beyond the Soundbite: Arts Education and Academic Outcomes*, Getty Center

*What Does It Mean To Be Well Educated? And More Essays on Standards, Grading, and Other Follies*, Alfie Kohn.  
Beacon Press, Boston: 2004.

*Guggenheim Study Suggests Arts Education Benefits Literacy Skills*, Randy Kennedy, New York Times, 2006

<http://www.learningthroughart.org>.

*Tough Choices Tough Times: The Report of the new Commission on the Skills of the American Workforce*, by the National Center on Education and The Economy (John Wiley & Sons, Inc., 2007)

*Building a 21<sup>st</sup> Century U.S. Education System*, by the National Commission on Teaching and America’s Future, Bob Wehling, Executive Editor, 2007

*Schools that Learn: A Fifth Discipline Fieldbook for Educators, Parents, and Everyone Who Cares About Education*, Peter Senge, Broadway Business, 2000.

## Favorite Books to Dance: Ideas that Inspire Creativity and Curriculum:

NDEO Member Feature:  
Alphabet Movers  
By Teresa Benzwie  
Illustrated by Robert Bender

*Alphabet Movers is a kinesthetic and visual feast for all ages! This delightful book will engage the brain, body and creative spirit of children, parents and teachers everywhere. Movement unlocks the learning process and Dr. Benzwie provides the perfect key!"*

---Anne Green Gilbert, M.A.T.

Artistic Director of Creative Dance Center, Seattle WA

Alphabet Movers may be purchased through the NDEO website or by calling the office, 301-585-2880.

*Changes*, by Marjorie N. Allen and Shelley Rotner (excerpts)

*Emma and the Magic Dance*, by Lou Alpert

*Cloudy With a Chance of Meatballs*, by Judi Barrett

*Alphabet Movers*, by Teresa Benzwie

*The Dancing Man*, by Ruth Bornstein

*Color Kittens*, by Margaret Wise Brown

*Goodnight Moon*, by Margaret Wise Brown

*From Head to Toe*, by Eric Carle

*The Very Hungry Caterpillar*, by Eric Carle

*Little Cloud*, Eric Carle

*Sleepytime Rhyme*, by Remy Charlip

*dance!* By Elisha Cooper

"in just" (poem), by e. e. cummings

*Some Smug Slug*, by Pamela Duncan Edwards

*In the Tall, Tall Grass*, by Denise Fleming

*On the Day You Were Born*, by Debra Frasier (this book is accompanied with a CD of instrumental music)

*Over, Under and Through*, by Tana Hoban

*Danny and the Dinosaur*, by Syd Hoff

*The Nutcracker*, by E. T. A. Hoffmann

*Harold and the Purple Crayon*, by Crockett Johnson

*The Witch's Hat*, by Tony Johnston

*Color Dance*, by Ann Jonas

*Snowy Day*, by Ezra Jack Keats

*The Lion and the Little Red Bird*, by Elisa Kleven

*The Carrot Seed*, by Ruth Krauss and Crockett Johnson

*The Dance*, by Bill T. Jones

*The Red Balloon*, by A. LaMorisse

*Swimmy*, by Leo Lionni

*Barn Dance*, by Bill Martin Jr. and John Archambault

*Magical Tales from Many Lands*, "The Halloween Witches" an African-American tale retold by Margaret Mayo

*Zach's Alligator*, by Shirley Mozelle

*Hailstones and Halibut Bones, Adventures in Color*, by Mary O'Neill

*Rainbow Fish and the Big Blue Whale*, by Marcus Pfister

*The Little Engine That Could*, by Watty Piper

*We're Going on a Bear Hunt*, retold by Michael Rosen

*Earth Dance*, by Joanne Ryder

*Night Flight*, by Joanne Ryder

*Abiyoyo*, by Pete Seeger's (a storysong)

*Come Along Daisy*, by Jane Simmons

*Amy the Dancing Bear*, by Carly Simon

*Bones*, by Seymour Simon

*Muscles*, by Seymour Simon

*Caps for Sale*, by Esphyr Slobodkina

"My Shadow" (poem) by Robert Lewis Stevenson

NDEO Member Feature:

Where's Leon? Storybook & Reader's Guide CD-ROM

By Jody Cassell

Illustrated by Kyra KRistof Pincheira

48 pp. & CD-ROM, ISBN 1-59494-013-2

*Jody Cassell's "Where's Leon?" dances, questions, and provokes language-rich experiences. Kura Kristof Pincheira's imaginative illustrations breath life into Leon's antics, his sister's quest and their ultimate reward. These are the kinds of rich learning experience we want for our youngest learners.*

-- Miriam C. Flaherty Willis, Senior Director, Education  
Wolf Trap Institute for Early Learning in the Arts.

To purchase Where's Leon? please write to Jody Cassell, at [Movingtolearn@nc.rr.com](mailto:Movingtolearn@nc.rr.com)

## EASY TO FIND OR MAKE PROPS/MATERIALS

<b>Big Cardboard Box</b>	dance in, around, under, over the box; make shapes in the box, create a dance that starts and ends in the box; pretend box is a car, cave, animal den, boat, etc.
<b>Chop Sticks</b>	Rhythm sticks
<b>Crepe Paper</b>	Pompoms, streamers, multi-strand tassels
<b>Elastic Waistbands or Sliced-up Stretchy Fabric Skirt (tie elastic or slice skirt horizontally in rings like calamari)</b>	Stretch between hands and feet to play with stretch, shape, even geometry
<b>Feathers/Balloons</b>	Blow, toss and catch, dance with, stroke body parts gently, carry on head/back of hand/between knees, etc.
<b>Hats</b>	Jump over one or more, go around, "Musical Hats", wear with personality!
<b>King Size Sheet</b>	Use like parachute, go around, go on, go under, jump on and off, while one group shakes it, other children dance in it (swimming like fish in the ocean, flying like birds in the clouds, rolling like earthworms underground, etc.
<b>Paper Plates</b>	Balance and stack on head
<b>Ribbon</b>	Jump over, walk and crawl under, pretend it is a tight rope
<b>Scarves</b>	Dance with, toss/catch, catch on/with various body parts, "paint" the air, run through, cover over, lie on, etc.
<b>Shoe Boxes</b>	Jump over, slalom around
<b>Foam Carpet Liner cut in Squares or Shapes</b>	Create pathways or spots to step on, jump on, jump over, sit on, define areas
<b>Plastic Easter Eggs filled with Seeds/Beans (glued shut)</b>	Rhythm shakers
<b>Thin Ribbons tied to Empty Masking Tape Roll</b>	Multi-strand tassels with durable handle

## **Music Resources:**

*Music for Creative Dance*, Volumes 1-4. Eric Chappelle [info@ravennaventures.com](mailto:info@ravennaventures.com)  
*Music for Brain Dance*, Eric Chappelle

*Adventures in Music*, Perry Kingsley

*I am the Song*, Kerri Lynn Nichols [contact@treefrogpro.com](mailto:contact@treefrogpro.com)  
*Music for Dancers*, Kerri Lynn Nichols [contact@treefrogpro.com](mailto:contact@treefrogpro.com)

*Gradual Motion*, Peter Jones, PO Box 294, South Hadley, MA 01075  
*Wee Sing & Play Musical Games and Rhymes for Children*  
*Wee Sing Around the World*

*Finger Plays*, Emilie Poulsson

**Contributions from National Dance Education Organization Early Childhood Interest Group Members: Jody Cassell, Connie Dow, Rima Faber, Anne Green Gilbert, Lynn Monson, Christine Roberts, Erica Sigal, Susan Stinson, Suzi Tortora,. Many Thanks to them for their experience, energy and expertise.**

**Rachael Carnes and Rima Faber**

**Early Childhood Interest Group Co-Chairs, Spring 2009.**