

STEAM Activity: A Dance for Dogs

Type of Teacher Tool: Whole Class

Targeted Grade Level(s): 5-8, 9-12

Targeted Curriculum Areas: Dance, Drama, Science

Learning Objectives:

The learner will:

1. observe the world from a dogs perspective.
2. gain knowledge of a dog's strengths.
3. create a dance capturing the strengths and qualities of man's best friend.

National Standards:

Life Science

LS4.A: Evidence of Common Ancestry and Diversity

LS4.C: Adaptation

- Adaptation by natural selection acting over generations is one important process by which species change over time in response to changes in environmental conditions. Traits that support successful survival and reproduction in the new environment become more common; those that do not become less common. Thus, the distribution of traits in a population changes. (MS-LS4-6)

Dance

DA: Cr1.1. II

a. Synthesize content generated from stimulus materials to choreograph dance studies or dances using original or codified movement

Resources/Materials Needed:

The following Educate.Today videos:

Veterinary—1, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10

Nature—2, 3, 5

Teacher Instructions:

1. Divide the class into groups of 10.
2. Have the groups watch all the videos and take notes on the strengths and qualities of dogs.
3. Have the groups discuss the top five qualities of a dog they will showcase in the dance.
4. Have the groups select the technical people who will research and create the lighting, music and costumes.
5. Have the dancers practice and create the choreography that captures the identified strengths and qualities of man's best friend.
6. Let the groups present the dance for each other in class

Alternative Assignment:

1. Have the class create a series of tableaux that capture the identified strengths and qualities of dogs.
2. Select and find music that can be played while the group moves through the tableaux.

Assessment/Evaluation Options:

1. The assignment should be evaluated on the execution of the dance and technical aspects of the dance and how well the students observed and captured the essence of dogs.

Extension Assignment:

1. Present the dances for invited groups and facilitate a discussion about dogs.

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