

Rhythm Dance

Aim / Objective:

This a creative dance activity and musical composition task involving the Element of Dance : TIME. Specifically it focuses on rhythm and beat. Students will use their body to create rhythmic patterns (percussion).

Time / Duration: (30 / 45 mins)

Students will make small groups or pairs and listen to the music *Beat of Passion* composed by A.R. Rahman (Taal Soundtrack) (5 minutes).

Get students to identify the different sounds, beats and noises or instruments. Encourage exploration using the element of dance TIME (accent, Tempo, Counts, beat, fast, slow). There are many different elements in this piece of music so let the students tell you what they can hear and what ideas and images it creates for them.

In small groups or pairs students will create their own rhythmic pattern to perform. The idea is to make it percussive. Hands drumming, feet stomping, hands clapping or using the body to create different combinations or rhythms and beat. (10 minutes)

You can also get the students to create their own dance movements based on what they can hear within the music. For Example : Water swishing or cymbals clashing.

Teachers will use the element of dance: TIME to create a percussion style performance.

The challenge for the teacher and students is to connect all the different movements and rhythms together. Be creative!

You can focus on a beat such as 1,2,3 or slow quick quick!

Encourage students to use different body parts to dance or create their musical rhythm.

If you have a music background this is a great opportunity to share some of your knowledge with your students!

This activity can be taught over a series of short lessons or in one class of 30-90mins.