



Dance Home Learning Booklet

Year 8

Street Dance Research Task



Name:

Tutor Group::

Subject Teacher:

Given out:

Monday 10 February

Hand in:

Monday 24 February

Parent/Carer Comment

Staff Comment

**As your lesson will rotate to Music after half-term,
hand your booklet in at Tutor Time as normal.**

Target

Starter Activity: Reading Task – Street Dance

We see it in films, on TV in adverts and music videos, and in the theatre. What are we talking about? Hip-hop, Urban dance or some of you might know it as street dance. This style of dance has not been around for very long compared to other dance forms like Ballet or Folk dance; however, in the last 20 years it has flung itself into our living rooms, on to our cinema screens, into our schools and on to our stages. Below is some factual information about the stylistic features of street dance. These stylistic features of street dance may not always be apparent in all styles under the umbrella of street dance; however, the majority of them will be noticeable and easy to spot and analysis the art form.

Factual Information: Street Dance

Street dance is an umbrella term for specific dance styles that originally evolved in spaces such as streets, parks, playgrounds and nightclubs, and which form part of hip-hop culture.

Street dance's earliest styles were created largely by African Americans, and later Latinos. These include breaking, which was created in The Bronx, New York in the 1970s, while popping and locking originated on the west coast of the US during the same decade. Street dance now also includes house, hip-hop, krump, turfing and flexing. In London, breaking, popping and locking are dominant styles.

Street dance styles are often improvisational and social in nature, encouraging interaction and contact with other dancers and spectators. There is normally a 'battle' element in the form of competitive one-upmanship. Street dance has heavily influenced popular culture and can be seen on music videos and commercials.

Key features of street dance

The key features of street dance are as follows (you may not use all of these features in the style you are learning):

- Movements initiated by and isolated to specific body parts, such as hips or shoulders.
- Movements have sharp changes of direction and focus.
- Accented beats and syncopated rhythms.
- A lot of movement will lead from how the torso is reacting to the music.
- Strong, sharp contractions of the centre of body and other body parts, such as the elbows
- The different layers of the music production have a direct influence on movement dynamics, which can result in certain moves being hard, soft, weighty, light/airy, sharp, smooth or emotive.
- Downward stressed grounded movements and quick, short steps are interspersed with long, smooth steps with the use of still held positions (freezes).
- A lot of strength and power behind moves, normally gained from the dancer thinking 'from the floor up' in terms of the energy travelling through their body.

Here are some of the key terms used in street dance.

Accentuation	Emphasis that you make on your dance or performance. In music, it is a form of emphasis on particular notes or beats.
Backspin	A power move where you are balled up and spinning on your back.
Body and arm waves	Moving your body or arms in a way that makes it look like a wave is passing through them.
Contraction	The movement of muscles that is required to move different parts of your body; shortening a muscle to change a shape of a limb.
Crazy legs	A leg-orientated dance move where legs are moved very quickly.
Down rock	An element of breakdancing where hands and feet are on the floor.
Footwork	Dance techniques relevant to your feet; a style of street dance involving fast movement of your feet with accompanying twists and turns. It originated in Chicago.
Freezes	Stopping all body motion, often in an interesting or cleverly balanced way.
Glides and slides	A group of foot moves that try to create the illusion that you are moving smoothly across the floor or that your legs are walking but your body is moving in an unexpected direction. Michael Jackson's moonwalk is a famous backslide.
Hip-hop	A dance style that usually involves hip-hop music – for example, breakdancing.
Isolations	The snappy rhythmic movements of separate body parts such as your head, shoulders and hands, which are associated with urban dance. Moving parts of your body separately from others.
Knee spin	A spin on one or both knees, usually in a kneeling position.
Pivots	A rotation of the body so that you are turning around your vertical axis.
Six steps	A basic move of footwork where your arms support your body above the floor and your legs walk around in a circle.
Stresses	Emphasis; being tense and uptight.
Syncopation	The emphasis of beats that are normally unstressed or weak. In dance, it can also be taken to mean dance patterns with difficult and rhythmic nuances.
Threading	A dance step that creates the illusion that a part of your body is being continually threaded like a needle with thread.
Three step	A more complicated footwork move that involves kicking.
Top rock	Any combination of steps performed from a standing position. It is usually a warm up for down rock.

Task 1 - Research

Using any resource such as: the internet, books, articles and websites, research the following tasks.

When you collect any research from many different sites, make sure you reference where you collected that certain part of information from by writing down or copying the link.

- 1) Find out the definition of Street Dance and write your answer below:

Sources:

Task 2 – How many styles are within the broad term of ‘Street Dance’? Make a list of them below in the box provided.

(Example – Animation, popping, locking etc.)

Task 3 – Once you have listed all the styles in Task 2, find out the definition for your top 3 that you find the most interesting and engaging to watch.

Use additional paper if needed

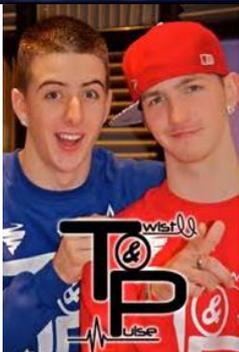
Task 4 – Now you need to research the list of crews below.

Pick **one** that is your favourite and research as much information as possible about them.

Research on Youtube, Guardian websites, books and other internet sites.

Use the questions below this table to help prompt your research process. Find out what they have achieved and how they have become successful.

Famous Crews

<p>Diversity</p>	
<p>Flawless</p>	
<p>Project G</p>	
<p>Rock Steady Crew</p>	
<p>Zoo Nation</p>	
<p>Twist and Pulse</p>	

Final Task: Prepare a 2-minute verbal presentation on the crew you have selected.

You will be expected to learn your speech or presentation and perform it during a dance lesson or to your dance teacher.

Imagine your listener knows nothing about dance or the crew you are talking about.

Think about the language you are using and the skills you will need to speak to the group.

You could do the presentation as a piece of persuasive writing, or an introduction for your crew at an awards evening or a profile for a TV appearance.

Once complete, practise your presentation to family members or friends, until you feel confident enough to do it without reading from the sheet (you can use your sheet when performing it).

To support your presentation, pick 10 questions below to help spark your thinking to create an informative and knowledgeable presentation.

1. What are the group called?
2. What is the age range?
3. Can you list a few of the crew's names?
4. Who is the leader?
5. How many are in the crew?
6. Is it an all-boys/girls or mixed sex crew?
7. When the group first formed/started training together?
8. What is the crew's main style? (example – breaking)
9. How did they get noticed?
10. Where have they performed?
11. Do they tour? (UK, Worldwide)
12. What are their costumes like? (find a picture & explain)
13. How does this crew operate on a weekly basis?
14. What role does everyone have in the crew? (Artistic director, choreographer, performer, costume designer)
15. Do they hold auditions?
16. Do they deliver workshops in studios/schools?
17. How did individuals get into the crew?
18. Earliest achievements?
19. How do they prepare and train for events/competitions?
20. Motivation for success?
21. Highest ever achievement?
22. Future goals?
23. Role models or heroes?
24. Diet and nutrition?
25. What would be their advice to young and upcoming dancers?

Presentation:

You should fill in the box below, this will act as your script when delivering your presentation. Try your best and answer as many questions as you can suggested above.

Use additional paper if needed