

Positive and Negative Space

Juniors

Goals:

- Differentiate between positive and negative dance space
- Work together to create choreography
- Make connections to other disciplines

Connections to Curriculum:

- A. Making-Developing Skill and Technique (personal and general space) *Improvise-* (collaborate on improv and invent solutions)
Choreograph- (incorporate spatial patterns working with peers)
- B. Literacy- Vocabulary and Symbols (contrast words)
- C. Context-Connections to other Subjects

Materials: Large open space preferable a dance studio with a mirror, Digital Camera

Sequence:

1. Discuss the difference of positive and negative space and then ask the following prompts. What other subjects might you hear these words? How do they relate to dance?
2. Have two students make a connected shape and show the class that they are filling in the space in a positive way with their bodies. The space not taken up with their bodies is the negative space.
3. Create a whole class group shape where each student connects to the group one by one with the goal of connecting to each other and filling in all negative space. Take a picture of each class shape and compare them to see how much positive and negative space is in each one.

Assessment:

Do students understand the difference between the two?

Can they fill the negative space with their whole body?

When looking at the class shape are they able to find the negative space?

Are they able to connect their bodies to others?