DRAMA, DANCE, MOVEMENT

TITLE: A STORY TO MUSIC

Teacher:

Find 3 pieces of music of your choice (variations of classical, modern, pop, or themes such as comedy music, scary music etc.)

1. Teacher and student/s listen together to each of the pieces.

Task options:

* Students can write down descriptive words as they are listening
* Young listeners or non-writers should listen in order to discuss the feelings that the music makes them feel

2. Discussion based on the word lists or listening activity. What did you feel? What do you think was happening in the music? Why did you like/dislike the music? What kind of movie could this music be a background to?

3. After this input, replay each piece and have the student/s move or dance to them in accordance with the feeling evoked and discussed.

3. Post-dance discussion:

How do you feel now?

How did the music make you feel when you listened without moving?

How did you feel when you were dancing? Was there a difference; why/why not?

4. Dance drama presentation:

Student/s must prepare a “dance drama” or improvised movement that tells a story. The student/s must imagine a story line and move to one of the pieces of music. For example, the storyline could be, “I am a young woman who flies from place to place bringing good luck to everyone”; or I am an old elephant who is dying and I want to look at the old trees and land for the last time. Let the music be their guide in building up a story. Large groups can be divided into small groups for this activity.