

## **Choreographing Narragansett Bay**

Grades K-3

Have students note the movement of Bay life while on field trips. Review Bay life movement on in-class Biological Community spreadsheets. Compare and contrast the movement of various Bay life.

### **Do Circle Warmup:**

Gather the students to stand in a large circle.

Have each student silently select one Bay life creature.

Go around the circle and have each student act out one movement of the Bay life they have selected.

Have the entire circle imitate that one student's movement.

Repeat process with next student.

After the class imitates that one movement, repeat all the student's movements up to that point.

By the time every one in the circle has completed each of their movements, a series of 20+ movements have been recreated by the class. (Students develop "ownership" of their movements plus their memory recall of other student's movements has been polished.)

### **Set up teams of 3-4 students:**

Have students in each team select 4 movements from the circle and explore and rearrange them in any design, format or sequence to a 4 or 8 count beat. For example:

1. fiddlers crab movement
2. harbor seal movement
3. starfish movement
4. fiddler crab movement
5. fiddler crab movement
6. starfish movement
7. harbor seal movement
8. starfish movement

Add a variety of music.

Let them experiment the movements in relation to the pace and beat of the music.

### **Mini Performance:**

Have each group perform their 4-8 count dance in front of the other students. Experiment with two teams performing at same time. Then three teams, etc.

### **Evaluation:**

Videotape each segment and have the students evaluate movements, what works, what does not work, etc. Evaluate and experiment with a variety of music in relation to movements. Have students re-edit movements.

### **Create Narragansett Bay Life Story via Interactive Writing:**

Through interactive writing, write a story together based upon the movements of these Narragansett Bay life creatures.

### **Dance Performance:**

Choreograph a dance based upon the story and final selected movements and music. Rehearse. Perform dance in variety of venues, (ie. school, nursing homes, hospitals, etc.).