

## How to do a marching dance

- Talk with the children about marching. Can anyone demonstrate marching? How do marchers use their arms and legs?
- Watch a video clip of people marching during the Thanksgiving parade
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zfCMNpKkKw8c> Watch up to 1 minute
- What do the children notice (e.g. the highly synchronised leg movements, and swinging arms on the beat, and how the marchers move exactly the same way)
- Choose one of the five marching classical music clips  
<http://www.letsplaykidsmusic.com/5-best-classical-tracks-for-marching>

### Warm up

- Ask the children to find a space in the hall and to stand tall and straight like soldiers
- Stand on the spot and practice marching with exaggerated leg and arm movements
- Ask children to move around the space & call out directions for children to travel in, e.g. forwards, backwards, diagonal

### Main

Create a paired march:

- Find a partner
- Create a marching dance using directional language
- Give children the first few steps, e.g. march towards each other, then march back
- What could children add to their dance? Perhaps they could move in another direction, travel one behind the other, stay marching on the spot or move in a circle shape

### Plenary

- Ask children to perform their marches
- Video performances so that children can observe their own work

### Cool down

- Walk around the hall
- Shake arms and legs until children feel loose and floppy
- Stand on the spot and stretch out arms over the head
- Try to touch toes
- Deep breaths and circular arm shapes

## Thanksgiving food hats

### 1. Instructions to make a drumstick hat

#### You will need:

- Brown paper lunch bag
- Coloured card
- A stapler
- Newspaper
- White tissue paper
- A pipe cleaner



#### Instructions:

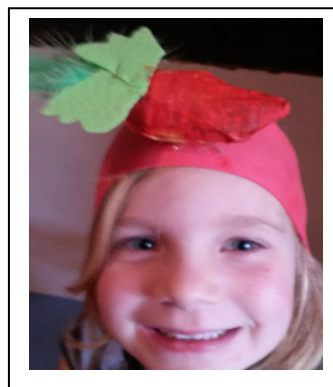
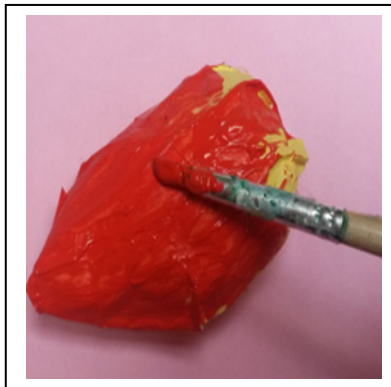
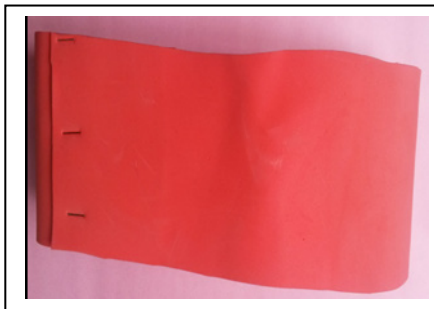
- Staple the ends of a strip of coloured card together to form a headband that fits around the child's head.
- For a turkey drumstick, stuff a paper lunch bag with newspaper and crunch up the end to form a turkey drumstick.
- Put a small sheet of white tissue paper on the end and twist a pipe cleaner around it to secure it to the drumstick
- Repeat the process to make a second drumstick
- Staple the drumsticks onto either side of the headband.

## 2. Instructions to make a carrot hat

### You will need:

A paper lunch bag

- Coloured card
- A stapler
- Newspaper
- Orange paint
- Green feathers or felt



- Staple the ends of a strip of coloured card together to form a headband that fits around the child's head.
- To make a carrot, stuff a paper lunch bag with newspaper and mould into a carrot shape.
- Paint the carrot orange and leave to dry.
- Make the leafy carrot top using felt or green feathers
- When the carrot is dry attach the leaves using glue, double sided tape or staples

*To make other foods use the same methods. Alternatively, make headbands and ask children to draw & colour or paint a picture of their thanksgiving food and attach that to the headband.*

## Ideas for the final parade

### Time to celebrate the learning throughout this block

- Welcome visitors to see what the children have achieved
- Prepare the hall or other large space, e.g. Playground
- Display creative outcomes from all blocks this topic
- Decorate the hall or playground with bunting and balloons

### You could have 4 parts to the parade:

#### Number 1: Chinese New Year

Children can perform their lion dances to the beat of the drum (see Session 1)

#### Number 2: Mardi Gras

Some children can wear their Mardi Gras masks others hold their shoe box floats and a group can dance Samba moves (see Session 2)

#### Number 3: Japanese Full Moon Festival

Children can sing the Japanese harvest song (see Session 3)

#### Number 4: New York Thanksgiving Parade

Children can wear their food hats and perform their marching dances (see Session 4)

*Feel free to adapt the parade, perhaps ask children what learning they would like to share. Make the parade as complex or simple as you like!*