

Arts Alive! Inc. 4001 N. Shepherd Ste. 108 Houston, TX 77018 713-699-9933 www.artsaliveinc.com

# Igniting the Joy through Movement

By using the Arts Alive! philosophy – Embrace the Spirit of the Child – and one simple prop, you will Ignite the Joy in each of your students!

Implement joy through movement exploration with STREAMERS!

Streamers (surveyor's tape) can be found at most home supply stores or online.

Pair your activities with thematic music and make it more meaningful and magic!

Let the fun and learning begin!!!

### Move your streamer as if it is:

- a lasso
- reigns for a horse
- fiery dragon breath
- a gymnast's ribbon
- spaghetti
- a rainbow
- a firework
- a banner or flag
- spider web silk
- a fishing line
- waves in the ocean
- fire
- a snake
- an insect

### Wear your streamer as a:

- a lion's or kitty's tail
- floppy rabbit ears
- an elephant's trunk

#### **Explore the weather with:**

- the pitter patter of rain
- or a torrential storm
- zigzag lightning
- slow falling snowflakes
- or a fast & furious blizzard
- spiraling tornados
- wild wind
- sunbeams

#### Practice skills such as:

- size (big, medium, small)
- placement (in front, behind, on the side, under)
- direction (up, down, diagonal, etc.)
- pathway (straight, curved, zigzag, etc.)
- level (high, medium, low)
- place (in place and through the space)
- tempo (slow, medium, fast)
- moving one streamer one way, the other another way, at the same time (this builds neural pathways)

#### Create art by placing streamers on floor to:

- make shapes (circles, triangles, abstract, etc.)
- make lines (straight, spiral, curving, zigzag, etc.)
- create spider webs
- make stars
- build flags
- create your own masterpiece!

# Explore seasons and holidays by placing streamers on the floor to:

- send Valentines with hearts, hugs and kisses
- grow a garden with flowers and insects
- make personal suns or one big group sun
- create a fireworks display
- grow pumpkins in the pumpkin patch
- create 6-pointed/sided snowflakes
- build snowmen
- fashion a menorah with Hanukkah candles
- make a Christmas tree with ornaments

#### Dance with friends and:

- copy each other's movements
- hold the ends of each other's streamers
- make a circle by holding your friend's streamer
- dance under the bridge made by 2 friends

# Work with your friends to:

- build a campfire (collect streamers and pile in center)
- become a horse and driver or
- reindeer and Santa
- solve math problems by placing streamers on floor as an equation (1+4=5)

And finally, just hold some streamers and DANCE to your favorite music!!!

# Why We Do What We Do

Arts Alive! classes unlock the part of a child's brain that is not typically developed in an academic setting. We take the joy of movement and the creativity of the arts and use it to teach children to activate the higher-order thinking center of their brain. Every activity we do has meaning and purpose.

# **Embracing the Spirit of the Child**

The foundation of every Arts Alive! program hinges on our philosophy – Embrace the Spirit of the Child. We embrace the strengths of young children. Always remember that children are naturally inclined to move and be joyful.

# Music = Magic

Children already possess the imagination to create magic. By providing a simple prop, such as streamers, thematic music and movement, you become facilitator to unlock that magic!

Music + Props + Movement + Play = MAGIC MAGIC = LEARNING & RETENTION

# Collaborating

Collaborating in Arts Alive! (whether it be with an individual or a small group) has purpose and depth. Focusing on social and communications skills and choosing a partner(s) helps prepare children for real life experiences.

# **Creating Neural Pathways**

Each new movement that a child learns, creates a new neural pathway. Arts Alive! teaches each lesson through movement which naturally challenges children to move, think and communicate all at the same time. Each time they do this, something new happens. Their brains are constantly activating the higher-order thinking center of the brain. Certain movements, such as crossing the midline and oppositional movements, are essential in creating neural pathways that develop reading skills.

#### Art for Art's Sake

Arts Alive! brings the arts to life – dance, music, drama and visual art. As you explore using our suggested techniques, remember to leave room for doing it for the sake of artistic expression. Every person/child/artist is different. Allow each of them to express themselves without an agenda or without a specific "product" that you, as the teacher, have in mind.