



Fireside Chat Discussion Summary

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Elementary Drama and Dance

What questions do we have about teaching elementary drama and dance in online and hybrid format classes?

1. What is your best drama/dance activity for online learners? How can you properly teach dance online, especially if students do not turn on their cameras?
 - See the ideas section for many suggestions!
2. Have Folks invested in any hardware or online software? ie) Streamyard, Music Mixers, LED lighting etc...
 - Many teachers also use Flipgrid for video submissions, and Screencastify to capture visual and audio.
3. How do you do group work online with Gr. 1's and 2's ? I know that we can use breakout rooms, however they have problems with just even click and drag!!
 - Schedule small group meetings instead of whole class meetings
 - Look for ways to adapt group activities into improvisations with the whole class; revise group work expectations to be whole group or individual where possible
4. Looking for ideas to create dances in small spaces.
 - Using restrictions such as you can't move your feet, utilize changes in height, shape, upper body movement still using the principles of dance.
 - Hand dances
5. What sort of strategies or tools have people been using to get grade 7/8 students to participate in dance, and to be more fully engaged?
 - Remove spotlight where possible (e.g., using Flipgrid where teacher must "approve" the videos so that they are not shared with the whole class)
 - Engage in Analysis & Cultural Context expectations and research projects related to dance
 - Virtual choreography through coding dances (ArtsAlive digital choreography, [code.org Dance Party](#) activity)
6. How do you plan activities knowing that many students (even those who show up for home room subjects) will not show up for arts subjects?
 - Some independent assignments that can be performed live or videoed out of class and submitted at a later date.



Games and community building ideas for teaching elementary drama and dance in online and hybrid format classes?

1. Counting Up (one person at a time, mics on; if we overlap, we start again)
2. Pictionary or charades - use Jamboard!
3. Focus on their own cultural dance through a "social dance" unit without appropriating cultural dance from others
4. At the beginning of class. Have students create a 6 movement greeting (e.g. clap, clap, bend knees, hands in air, etc.). This can be done individually, or they can create a greeting in a breakout room with a partner that they can share with or teach to the class.
5. It's For You game - You have a conversation and they have to pass the phone to someone else (scavenger hunt to grab a phone-like object)
6. Foreign Film (gibberish & translator) improv game
7. Voice-overs of nature videos (make each animal have its own character and dialogue) rehearse with a partner or group in breakout rooms and perform live.
8. Tongue twisters were really fun!
9. Music to set the intention to increase engagement, Game-like drawing to the music (Muzak version of songs), when people turn the camera on.
10. Thursday Memes: on a scale of 1-9, how are you feeling?
11. Question of the Day OR This or That, Underrated or Overrated
12. Modelling clay (mime) game.

Activities that work online or in a physically distanced environment

1. Overheard conversations (class is broken into different groups - breakout rooms - different stakeholders/character groups that are targeted to the next activity)
2. Create stories from their mind that could be a prelude to creative dance (beginning, middle, end of their story)
3. Interviewing a pet or stuffy or inanimate object - topic about the lockdown or other topics (using Flipgrid)
4. Finger dances/ Hand dances
5. Warm Up: Scavenger hunt to go through their house and come back with an object (spoon to pass to "taste", socks on their hands - puppets)
6. Prompting questions to build context (e.g., "What is it like there in the forest, tell us what you see?"); could use Flipgrid to have students to a Museum Tour & use each part as a place in a drama
7. Use of props and costumes, mime to create setting
8. Town Hall Meetings in role
9. Hot seating/ interview-style activities for drama for any character (esp. perpetrator or antagonist)
10. Music play for bucket drumming, body percussion.



Online drama and dance activities that are not dependent on cameras

1. Creating a soundscape with found objects and then guessing how we made the sounds.
2. Code.org (<https://studio.code.org/s/dance-2019/stage/1/puzzle/1>) - Code a dance party and encourage students to use the elements of dance in their final level.
3. Social dancing & connecting identity through the Analysis strand of the curriculum - Notorious Cree webinar (PDSB hosted one - <http://www.jonesdancer.com/>)
4. Explore the origins of African-American social dancing (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dpCBMwAweDI&t=2s> -> Camille A. Brown TED Talk) & viral dance crazes through history (contact tessa.lofthouse@code.on.ca if you would like the PPT resource of viral dance crazes)
5. Analyze dances using the elements of dance & critical analysis process
 - a. TXT Dream Chapter: Magic Concept Trailer (<https://youtu.be/o-j-XoaUuU>)
 - b. Red Sky Performance Great Lakes dance excerpt: <https://vimeo.com/234741961>
 - c. BTS Black Swan Art Film (performed by MN Dance Company) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vGbuUFRdYqU>
 - d. So You Think You Can Dance performances
6. National Ballet School dance lessons (free resources)
7. ArtsAlive - digital choreography

Secondary Drama

What questions do we have about teaching secondary drama in online and hybrid format classes?

1. How do you teach drama in an online setting? What is your classroom set up?
 - Student Collaboration piece: Specific structure (2 hour)
 - a) Question of the day
 - b) Game
 - c) Teacher lead lesson
 - d) Work time -- individual (writing in role...) in breakout groups (scene reading, group activities) Build a jamboard and present to the class.
 - e) Wrap up
 - The more predictable the structure of the class is the more the class buys in.
 - Posting the agenda is helpful for the students
2. What are some restrictions you need to follow when teaching a drama class face to face? (i.e. no touching)
 - Some advice for physical distancing strategies on the CODE website, lesson adaptations posted there as well
3. How can we avoid online drama class becoming strictly assignment based? i.e. How can we bring collaborative devising into the online format?
 - See the ideas section for many great collaborative tasks.



4. How do we encourage students to turn their cameras on?
 - Reaching out to parents to inquire as to why the camera is off.
 - Using activities and games that call for temporary camera usage.
 - Structure specific times that require camera usage ie. rehearsal, performance etc.
5. How can we make adaptations to tasks for students without mics, space, cameras, etc.?
 - Jamboard for conversations
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6. What are some online tools for students to use to record scenes?
 - Screen castify extension for web browser captures visual and audio
 - Flip grid must join they can record their screen and record with their cameras
 - We video records for recording and editing.

Games and community building ideas for teaching secondary drama in online classes?

1. Monday Memes: on a scale of 1-9, how are you feeling?
2. Question of the Day - This or That - Underrated or Overrated - get students using their mics and stimulate some fun discussion!
3. "Caption this" Share a photo, students come up with a name for it.
4. One word story, Alphabet Conversation, the Rule Game, Where the Wind Blows, but on Padlet
5. Whoosh, Whoa
 - Participate with mic, or chat
 - West wind blow everyone stand in spot last one to stand or cameras off turn cameras on and wave. Last to do it is it.
6. Simon Says, Follow the Leader
7. Pass the pen / phone / book / etc. Usually grows into an improv
8. Dragon's den: in groups, create an invention to address an everyday problem and come up with a name, slogan & explanation for how it works
9. Pictionary with the whiteboard (or charades in person)
10. Mafia: three secret murderers find victims, and we have to guess who they are.
 - Pick 3 murders (send private message), they each pick a victim to murder, Teacher announces the death, everyone accuses, victims can comment in the chat. Can add act out the death or sound effects, secret tasks before murdering someone. Everyone is completing another task at the same time.
11. Energy ball
12. Scavenger Hunt: find something in your house that is . . .and turn on your camera and show us
13. Late for work turned into where's your mask, Make me a Meme, murder wink, HOA, Simon says, Among Us



Activities and projects that work online or in a physically distanced environment

1. Creating a soundscape w/found objects and then guessing how we made the sounds
2. Voice-Over Narration Scenes
3. Recording "zoom scenes." Example: Online learning fails
4. I did a virtual play as part of the Drama Club over Zoom Webinar
5. Re-voicing cartoons or nature shows
6. Chosen Issue : Spoken Word + Mono + Scene
7. Radio Drama
8. Online scene studies
9. Soundscapes for commercials where I dropped the sound and radio plays, Tik Tok scene finishers
10. Choice board: do a scene, set design or 'missing scene' inspired by the play we are studying
11. Creating an original monologue from a process drama & recording it using Screencastify
12. Hot seating as character, whole group improv in character.
13. Mime Unit: Teach skills, create and rehearse an individual mime scene.

Secondary Dance

Activities, resources and projects that work online or in a physically distanced environment

1. Josh G Taylor via the Rose Theatre in Brampton: will conduct virtual zoom workshops with students of all ages.
2. Site Specific work: Use school grounds, student's space at home, outdoor space to inspire movement and create movement
3. Sit and Stand Warm up: done standing, with support and in chair in acknowledgement of space and physical ability. Email tina.vieria@code.on.ca for info.
4. Edupuzzle. Free website which allows you to add questions and pause videos when working with a class so students do not move ahead too quickly.
5. Pair students together. Have each film either upper or lower body choreography, share film and partner has to create the other half (upper/lower) choreo to match.
6. True Roots of Jazz by Up-Rooted: resource to help break down colonization. Not yet released but keep an eye out
7. Notorious Cree will conduct virtual zoom workshops with students.
8. Kaeja d'Dance: dance on film (new piece based on interaction with space in time of isolation) as well as amazing films from a long lasting vault of expertise.
9. Hand Dance: Use only the hand to create a dance piece. Can be used at various levels and combined to teach the elements of dance. Email cheri-anne.byrne@code.on.ca for access.
10. Citadel and Compagnie: Black Ballerina. Piece by Bob Barose. Reach out to Citadel and Compagnie for access. (not suitable for younger grades)