



## EDUCATOR GUIDE

EPISODE 106B

### SHAKE YOUR TAIL FEATHERS



#### MUSICAL VOCABULARY

Beat, Dance, Choreography



#### SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL SKILLS

Empathy, Persistence



#### ADDITIONAL LEARNING AREAS

Mathematics (counting, coding)






## MAESTRO MOON'S CUES






It is the event of the year - The Beebopsburgh Birdie Bash! Do, Re & Mi are very excited to dance the Birdie Boogie and are counting the beats and steps to practice. Seymore Saymore, the parrot, wants to join in but has trouble following the steps. Do, Re & Mi pitch in to help Seymore learn the Birdie Boogie. They learn to keep the beat by counting steps and Do creates a dance step diagram to show the choreography). However, the birdies finally conclude that there is no right or wrong way to dance. In the end, Seymore is able to dance with his birdie buddies to the song, *Shake Your Tail Feathers*, feeling the music and getting into his own groove.



## MUSICAL VOCABULARY

-  **BEAT** - The pulse of a piece of music. How time is counted.
-  **DANCE** - Moving the feet and body in a rhythmic way (or to music).
-  **CHOREOGRAPHY** - Where and when you move to music.

## MUSICAL VOCABULARY BUILDING

-  Explain that choreography is a series of dance steps that follow a pattern. "Flap your wings up high. Now flap your wings down low. Up high, down low. You're following a dance step. That is choreography."
-  I am going to make a clapping beat. Stand up and try dancing to the beat.
-  Now I am going to change the beat. How will your dance move change?
-  Some dance moves have names. You can introduce the freeze dance, chicken dance, or the shopping cart dance. As children learn about different moves, invite them to name their own!
-  Teach the children a simple dance step using numbers. For example, forward steps 1-2-3, backward steps 1-2.

# EVERYBIRDY GROOVE

## Learning Experience

The Birdie Boogie has some outstanding choreography to go with, but as children learn in watching the episode, *Shake Your Tail Feathers*, dancing one way is not the only way. As the birdies sing, “You’re the only birdie with your groove!”

Set up space for a dance party to take place. Establish parameters for safety. Not all people need to be dancing the same way, you need to be sure that people are working to be aware of their space and bodies. While dancing is a wonderful and necessary medium for self-expression and self-awareness, it requires self-regulation and coordination, which are large pieces of work for young children! The idea of dancing in a “space bubble” can support children as they develop an awareness of personal space. Establish that when the music changes, it is like freeze dance, with an opportunity to rest!

Work through your Do, Re & Mi playlist, and allow for dancing with totally free expression. Notice the variety of ways you see children moving, calling attention to their unique dance moves, and join in the fun yourself. An excellent helper job for folks that may not feel ready to dance yet is DJ, so consider ways to make this job easy and accessible for the children in your classroom.

After a couple of rounds of dancing freely, invite people to share a personal move that the rest of the group can try out. How will they incorporate that into their dancing? After each rest, have a child introduce a new move that the rest of the class can try out.



## Extend the Learning

- 🎵 The Birdie Boogie choreography is fun to learn for those that want to try. The moves are as follows: sidestep back and forth, disco feather up and down on the diagonal, spinning hands in circles in front of your body, and shaking your tail feather in a circle to the beat. If it feels necessary or appropriate, watch the dance again so that children get a sense of it. Introduce visuals of each move for children to see. Later, you can even tape them to the ground and have children walk across them, making the dance move of the image they land on.
- 🎵 Using cones or floor spots, create an obstacle course for children to dance through in pairs. They will need to coordinate their bodies and read each other’s movement cues, as is required in partner dancing. For some, this can be a big challenge, while for others, it is more intuitive. Children will need to regulate their speed to match their partner. If it makes sense, number the spots or cones and put different movement images on each so that children practice other moves as they dance on through!
- 🎵 The songbirds are constantly evolving and now they get to create their own tailfeather to dance with. Create templates of different size feathers for children to select, trace, and cut or pre-cut them. Offer different collage materials (construction paper, markers, crayons) for children to glue onto the feather shapes. If you connect the feathers with brass fasteners, the feathers can even fan out like Juan Peacock. Once children have created their own unique tailfeathers, invite them into the dance party for some tail feather shaking!



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## RE's SOUND STUDIO

The sound studio is turning into a silent dance party again! Allow children to go one or two at a time and use headphones with music devices to have some dancing time. If people would like inspiration, provide cards with dance move images on them. Children can select several and line them up, creating the choreography. They will then dance the sequence to repeat the steps and see how it makes sense with the music they are listening to.



## DO's WORKSHOP

### DANCE DIAGRAMS

The children work in pairs to create their own dance maps using construction paper and child-safe scissors. Have them place their cut-out shapes on the floor with arrows on them to show where to go while dancing. Arrange them so the dance can happen continuously. After they show the dance steps, switch them up, and another pair can create a new dance. As an extra challenge, you can remove the pieces of paper and have someone call out steps such as, "forward, backward, twirl!"



## MI's BIRDIE BUDDY MOMENTS

### MY BIRDIE PRINT!

Seymore Saymore learned to self-express in dance. Music and art help children develop self-awareness and express themselves. Time to get messy! Head outside. Turn on the Do, Re & Mi theme song and get out the paint. Using an old sheet or large pieces of paper, have the children dip paintbrushes in tempera paint and splatter their designs as the music inspires them. They can also dip feathers in the paint instead of brushes. Hang the artwork to dry. Take images to send home.



## SING ALONG

TIME TO SHAKE YOUR TAIL FEATHERS. SING AND DANCE TO SHAKE YOUR TAIL FEATHERS AS YOU ARE HEADED OUT THE DOOR, COMING BACK TO THE SCHOOL, OR RIGHT BEFORE LUNCH OR SNACK!

Play Song Here

## SHAKE YOUR TAIL FEATHERS

(Jackie Tohn, David Schuler)

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**MI**

Everybirdy's got a rhythm  
Everybirdy feels the beat. Yeah!

**RE**

Everybirdy dances different  
So everybirdy move your feet

**MI**

Yeah! Come on, Seymore!

**DO**

1, 2, 3, 4

Dance your way across the floor

5, 6, 7, 8

Move your body your own way!

**DO / RE / MI / SEYMORE**

Shake, shake, shake, shake,  
Shake, shake, shake your tail feathers!

**RE**

Yeah!

**DO / RE / MI / SEYMORE**

You're the only birdie with your groove  
I said shake, shake, shake, shake,  
Shake, shake, shake your tail feathers!  
Only you can get down like you do

**MI**

Everybirdy do your own move!

**DO / RE / MI / SEYMORE**

Shake, shake, shake, shake,  
Shake, shake, shake your tail feathers!

**MI**

Woo!

**DO / RE / MI / SEYMORE**

You're the only birdie with your groove  
I said shake, shake, shake, shake,  
Shake, shake, shake your tail feathers!  
Only you can get down like you do

**RE**

Everybirdy do your own move!

## HARMONY'S & MELODY'S LIBRARY

1. *Barnyard Dance* by Sandra Boynton
2. *Elephants Cannot Dance* by Mo Willems
3. *How Do You Dance* by Thyra Heder
4. *Dance is for Everyone* by Andrea Zuyll
5. *Flora and the Flamingo* by Molly Idle



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## BEEBOPSBURGH COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

Connect families to the musical adventures and sounds for *Shake Your Tail Feathers* by sending the link to the parents' tips. Share with families the fun the children had dancing and learning about choreography:

Dancing together is a way to celebrate our individuality and yet following the same choreography provides a shared experience that is also wonderful! The children had a chance to dance freely and feel their bodies move naturally to the music while also learning specific dance moves. They sequenced dance steps, moved independently, and considered body awareness and self-regulation while dancing with others. They created their own unique tailfeathers to add to their songbird persona and enhance our dance parties to top it off.



### MATERIALS

Musical Instruments	Arts & Craft Supplies	Natural Elements & Recycled Items	Common Items (household or classroom)	Other Items
	Large poster paper	Feathers	Old sheet	Sport cones
	Markers			Audio player or tablet and headsets
	Crayons			
	Brass fasteners			
	Glue			
	Multiple color construction paper			
	Tempera paint			
	Paintbrushes			



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