

6th Grade Dance Study Guide

History

- Dance has been used throughout civilization by various cultures and society to communicate concepts such as customs, self-expression and social interaction.

Types of Dance

- **Square Dance:** Performed with partners, in groups of eight forming a square.
- **Contra Dance:** A dance in which couples stand in long lines facing each other, and move in opposite directions.
Examples: Virginia Reel
- **Round/Circle Dance:** Round dance is a term used as early as the eighteenth century in Europe for dances in which partners perform in a circle and usually move in a counterclockwise direction. Round dances are also called couple or partner dances.
Examples: Heel Toe Polka, Jiffy Mixer, the Waltz, the Polka, Five Foot Two
- **Line Dancing:** A dance performed in a line, usually no partners.
Examples: Hot Chocolate, Rollercoaster, Electric Slide
- **Folk Dance:** A Dance performed from customs and traditions of people. Dances that come from countries other than the United States. It is "the dance of the people".

Terminology

Closed Dance Position - Girl's right hand in boy's left, girl's left hand on boy's shoulder; boy's right hand in middle of girl's back to guide her.

Do-Si-Do - Two dancers face and move toward each other passing right shoulders. Each person then moves to his right, passing in back of the other person and without turning, passes left shoulders and moves backward to place.

Line or Contra - type of formation; dancers stand side by side facing in the same direction.

Line of Direction - Refers to the direction of movement of dancers around a circle, *counterclockwise*.

Promenade - Couple walks side by side, girl on right, right hands joined to right (on top) and left to left (on bottom) in a cross-armed position. The couple walks counter-clockwise around the set.

Swing - Two dancers hook elbows or closed dance position, turn each other once around (clockwise) and return to place.

Dances	Cues
All American Promenade	(Holding partner's hand, facing line of direction) Walk forward 2-3-4, turn and back up 2-3-4.
Electric Slide	(Line dance) Step right, cross, right, touch (clap) 1, cross, 1, touch (clap); step back 2-3-4 (clap).
Five Foot Two	(Promenade position; line of direction) Left, close, left; right, close, right; walk 2-3-4; repeat; etc.
Heel Toe Polka	(Facing partner, holding hands) Heel, toe, heel, toe, slide, slide, slide; repeat. Clap right, right, right, etc.
Hot Chocolate	(Line dance) Right, cross, right, point; back 2-3-4; rock, rock, rock turn.
Jiffy Mixer	(Facing partner, holding hands) Slide, close, side, touch; jump, clap, jump, clap, etc.
Oh Johnny	(Single circle facing in) All joins hands circle left around the ring, stop where you are give your partner a swing, etc.
Oh Susanna	(Single circle facing in) Girls walk in 2-3-4; boys walk in 2-3-4 face partner grand right and left until 7 th person, etc.
Rollercoaster	(Line dance) same as Hot Chocolate, adding several steps.
Tennessee Wig Walk	(Boys face line of direction, girls clockwise; arms up, hands clasp, elbows together) Point front, side, cross behind, step, step, etc.

Teton Mountain Stomp (Closed dance position) Left, close, left, stomp, right, close, right, stomp, etc.

Virginia Reel (Line or contra, facing partner) Forward 2-3-4 and back 2-3-4; right hands around, left hands around, etc.