



And Here's to You!

A Creative Movement & Creative Lit Lesson

Suggested Grades: Second

Sandy Lantz & Gretchen Wahlberg

National Core Arts Standards

Anchor Standard # 1

Anchor Standard # 2

Anchor Standard # 3

Objectives

- Improvise creative movement to illustrate various characters in a story
- Improvise creative movement to pre-recorded music selections for each character
- Discuss relationships between music, movement, and characters

Materials

And Here's To You by David Elliott

Musical Excerpts – Listed Below



**Sandy Lantz &
Gretchen Wahlberg**

Gretchen and Sandy have co-conducted all county ensembles across Florida. In 2016, Sandy and Gretchen were the co-conductors and clinicians FMEA All-State Orff Ensemble and South Regional Orff in 2018. They have also co-authored "Drum It Up", "Creative Bits with Children's Lit", "S'more Bits with Children's Lit", and "Strum It UP."

Characters in the Book – Musical Excerpts:

- Birds - Carnival of the Animals – Aviary
- Fish - Carnival of the Animals – Aquarium
- Bears - Music for Creative Dance Vol I, track 5, Echo Lady
- Bugs - Music for Creative Dance, Vol V, track 2, All Speeds Ahead
- Cats - Music for Creative Dance, Vol IV, track 2, Up and At 'Em
- Dogs - Music for Creative Dance, Vol. V, track 6, Stop into Rock
- Cows - Music for Creative Dance, Vol II, track 8, Skippy Ska
- Frogs - Music for Creative Dance, Vol V, track 8, Retro Future
- People - Music for Creative Dance, Vol IV, track 4, Bayou Both step
- Me - Music for Creative Dance, Vol. II, track 2, Bee Beat

Suggested Teaching Process:

- Read the book - **And Here's To You** by David Elliott
- While reading, play the suggested listening examples
- The students listen to the story and the music excerpts.
Hint: Create a playlist or recording of the tracks in the order they are presented in the story.
- On the 2nd reading, encourage students to create their own movement to illustrate the characters with the music excerpts.
Hint: Brainstorm movement ideas as a class so that students who are less confident have some ideas to work with.
- Next, divide the students into two groups.
- Allow half of the students to perform their created actions for their classmates





- Switch, so all students have the opportunity to perform and are also part of an audience.
- Finally, have students analyze and discuss musical connections between the movement and the music that illustrates each character.
- Perform a final time with all students participating.
 - **Hint:** *This is a wonderful opportunity to record your students and share with parents – if you are really ambitious, include the discussion points students shared about the musical and movement connections.*

Extension Opportunity:

- Create new characters and objects to extend the book and then music to illustrate the new characters and objects.

