

Review „Good Woods“

A Book with CD by Nina Brunner from „Bounce n’ Boogie Projects“

by Terry Pfeiffer

This is a book with CD for use with young children between 3 and 7 years of age. It is intended to help with learning rhythm and musicality as well as basic movement skills and cooperation with other children. The ideas in the book could be put to use in academic-school classrooms, in kindergartens and in creative-dance or pre-ballet classes. The concepts are largely based on Rudolf von Laban’s work with spatial awareness and qualities of movement.

In this book all the ideas and the music take place in a forest and with the plants and animals found there. The music is easy and clear. It sounds largely computer-generated, and most children will probably recognise the style. Young children generally love repetition; the older ones and their teachers may at times wish for less. There are general ideas given for every piece of music, as well as more specific descriptions, with musical counts and explanations of the suggested movements for each part. Children’s listening skills are honed when they must pick up on slight variations in the sounds which in turn signal changes in movement type, dynamic or direction.

The movements are basic and can be readily modified, becoming more or less challenging, as desired. One could also do the pieces in a different order, or otherwise slightly change things to better fit the group at hand. This book with the accompanying music CD can be used in many ways and is a good addition to the teaching-library of early-childhood movement educators.

“Good Woods”, Bounce n’ Boogie Vol. 1 – by Nina Brunner, Bastian Eifeld, Nils Meissner
Published by: Bounce n’ Boogie Projects Ltd
ISBN: 978-0-956650504. 24,99 Euro

Tanznetz.de (dance web) – German website for dance related stuff

Gießen, Germany 22.02.2011