Physical Education/Dance

At a New Orleans second line, dancers can share the band's pulse while choosing their own steps. At the 2013 Satchmo SummerFest procession, an observer described followers beginning to dance as a band near them played "When the Saints Go Marching In."

See the outdoor second line after the Henriette Delille Street photograph

Set up Mark a short route with a corner, leave an arm's length between dancers, and choose a leader. Use a drum or clap a steady pulse. Students may step, roll, tap, or move their arms in place.

Move Travel or mark time for eight beats together. For the next eight, the leader invents a movement and the group echoes it. Change leaders and repeat around the corner. Notice which visual cue helps the group turn together while each person keeps an individual step.


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