

## DANCE MAKING

**FOCUS:** Folk dance basics; creativity; cooperation

**EQUIPMENT:** Folk dance, or popular music; tape or record player; recording paper and pencil per group

**ORGANIZATION:**

Working in groups of six to eight, dancers create their own folk and square dances. Ensure groups are well spaced apart. Encourage good participation by everyone in the group. Provide ample time for groups to develop, practice, and refine their dances, and provide opportunity for each group to teach their dance to the other groups. You may wish to list on a card the folk dance basics taught in this section and provide a copy for each group.

**DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITY:**

1. Folk Dance-Making: In your group of six to eight, choose one dancer to be the recorder. Using the basic folk dance steps that you have learned, design a folk dance of your own. You may use folk dance music or music of your choice. Include at least six folk dance steps. Have the recorder write your dance routine on paper. Work in counts of four, eight, or sixteen.

**VARIATION:**

- C If possible, videotape each group's Folk Dance. The performers will enjoy watching themselves!
- C There may not be time to teach everyone's dance, but there should be one lesson left to have each group perform their dances. Save the dances that worked out well, and use them as a rainy day activity in the future.