CREATIVE IDEAS FOR DEVELOPING DANCE

**EYFS: HUMPTY DUMPTY**

Sing the nursery rhyme with the children. Now explore some of the ideas in dance.

Sit with the class next to you. With your hands practise some curling and stretching actions.

Now try with the whole body. Try curling up slowly and stretching slowly - then try quickly.

Try galloping forwards around the room. Can you hold the reins as if on a horse?

Now try soldier marching on the spot, then try marching forward and back and round in a circle. Now march anywhere in the room. Can you end in a soldier shape with a salute?

**KS1: TOY SOLDIER**

Talk about a toy soldier (bring in a toy if possible): describe how it has to be wound up in order to move and that its limbs are stiff and straight. Practise the muscle tension needed to have stiff arms and legs.

Practise standing like a soldier – tall, legs together, arms and legs straight, shoulders back, chin up. Try moving from a hanging floppy shape to a stiff soldier.

Now try walking in a stiff way - straight line pathways and then round in curved pathways. Stop and salute - two jerky actions.

Toy soldier out of control, perhaps due to over winding. Demonstrate a repetitive movement e.g. going round in a circle with quick salutes. Ask children for other ideas. Make sure the soldier is still stiff. As the soldier winds down, collapse to the floor.
CREATIVE LINKS TO THE EYFS HOLISTIC CURRICULUM

Show images of several soldiers in simple uniforms e.g.

Pose questions, for example: How many soldiers? How many shoes? How many buttons? How many eyes? Invite children to make up and answer their own mathematical questions, too.

LITERACY
Share the simple version of the story of the ‘The Tin Soldier’ e.g. published by Usborne. Talk about the boy's feelings and collect children's responses to the tale.

EXPRESSIVE ART AND DESIGN - MUSIC
Use unconventional materials for drums e.g. upturned buckets or large cardboard boxes played with wooden spoons and encourage children to improvise marching music in the outdoor area.

CREATIVE LINKS TO THE KS1 CURRICULUM

ART AND DESIGN
Design a flag for a regiment of soldiers, using lines only drawn with pencil, Transfer these designs to polystyrene ‘press-print’ tiles, using a ball-point pen. Apply a layer of paint with a roller and print the designs on to paper. Cut out and display.

LITERACY
Share a simple story version of ‘The Nutcracker’ and watch some footage of the ballet. Ask children to suggest new places that Clara could visit on Christmas Eve.

PSHE
Talk about Remembrance Day and why we remember all the brave people who’ve helped us to stay safe. Show images of the ceramic poppies at the Tower of London and invite children to make their own poppies in different media.