# KIBO Dance Party
## (Intermediate, 60 minutes)

Cross-curricular connection: **World Cultures (Social Studies), Music**
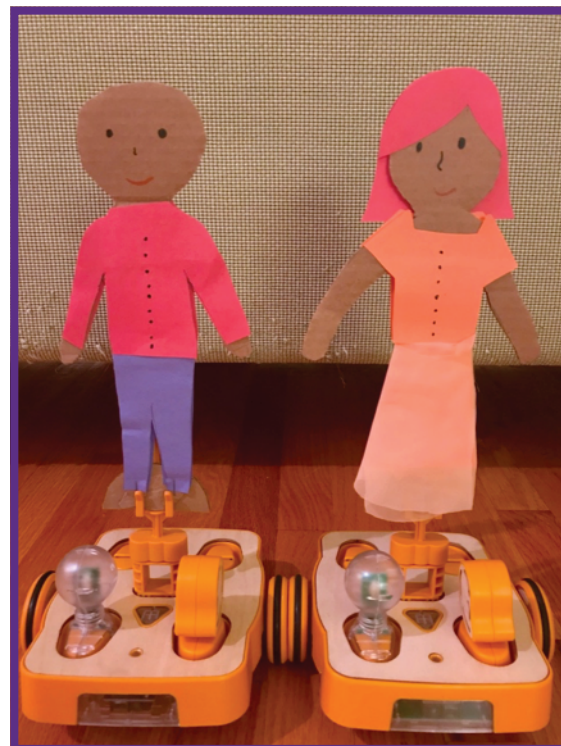Special KIBO Parts: **Motorized Stage Support**

## Overview:

Let's have a KIBO dance party! You'll set up a music player at the activity center to play a favorite classroom song, or a song connected to a culture you're exploring in the classroom curriculum. Students will decorate their KIBO as a dancer, then they will create a program to teach their KIBO to dance to the music.



## Learning Goals:

Students will learn how to create a **program to express an idea** (in this case, a dance), with a focus on sequencing ability. They'll also gain experience decorating KIBO with **sturdy building** techniques. If you choose to connect this activity center to a class-wide cultural studies unit, students will deepen their understanding of the **music and customs of the chosen culture**.

## Materials (and Equipment):

- KIBO blocks and parts limited to:
    - All blocks except IF/END IF
    - Wheels and motors
    - Spacers, stage supports, and art stage platforms (for spinning dancer)
    - Optional: Sound sensor, light bulb
- Craft / recycled / art materials to craft dancer
- Music player (CD player, tablet, etc.)



## Station Setup:

The station has three main areas:

- A KIBO construction area, with craft supplies to build and attach dancer decorations
- The "media" area with a music player for the songs the children can use for their dance. Optionally, this area can include books and other reference images for dancer costumes.
- An open, flat area to be the "dance floor" where KIBO dancers will go. There should be room here for children to move around and dance along with their KIBOs.

Decoration and signs:

- Decorate the dance floor and media area with images related to the culture, dancers, and costumes of the culture(s) the class is studying.
- Vocabulary sign: **dance**, **rhythm**, **costume**

Materials: Ensure that the students have some "structural" materials to provide sturdy bodies for the dancers, such as paper towel tubes, boxes, cardboard pieces, or the like; along with options for connecting these to the KIBO motorized platforms.

## Project Facilitation Suggestions:

How you introduce this activity will depend on whether you want to connect it to an ongoing cultural studies unit about the dances, music, and costumes of a particular culture. If so, you could introduce the center as a chance for students to teach their KIBOs what they've learned about a particular dance. You might play a video evoking the dance and costumes.

*Note: For a complete KIBO curriculum based on this concept, see **Dances from Around the World** from Tufts University's DevTech Research Group!*

**!** **Get active!** Regardless of whether you're making a cultural studies connection, a whole-class circle would be a great time to play some selected song(s) and encourage students to dance along. Engage them in a reflection on what movements they made and how they might teach KIBO to move that way.

At the station, the following exploration prompts can keep students on track:

- How can you decorate KIBO to look like a dancer (from the culture the class is studying)?
- Can you make sure that the costume is sturdy, especially on the spinning platform?
- Can you use the KIBO sound sensor to make the dance start, or change, based on a clap?
- Can more than one KIBO dance together?
- Can you dance with your KIBO?

## Suggested Modifications or Variations:

If you have multiple KIBOs available in your classroom, consider keeping each group's dancer set up in the dance floor area. Later, all the KIBOs and kids can dance together in a class-wide KIBO dance party. You can even record the dance party to share with parents!

## Academic Standards Addressed:

| Whole-Classroom Connections | This activity station would work well during a unit exploring the culture and customs of other parts of the world, or students' own cultural heritage. This would also be an opportunity to work with a music teacher. |
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