

Everybody Has Something Special to Offer:

Every one of us has something very special to offer, and in this activity we will each offer contributions to a group dance. At the beginning of the program *Tubby the Tuba*, we hear the instruments in the orchestra playing catch with the melody of a song. As the narrator says, “First the violins danced a lovely tune on their strings.” The violins toss the tune to the flutes, then the trumpet joins in, and then the rest of the instruments join the dance. When Tubby the Tuba tries to join in his own unique way, the other instruments laugh at him. But by the end of the story, the other instruments and Tubby himself all learn that he has something very special to offer. And so do each of you!

Materials Needed:

Room to dance!

Optional: Music to dance to, ribbons or scarves to dance with, or something fabulous to wear!

Tubby,” said the conductor. “Tubby, just what is the matter?” “Excuse me sir. I just want to dance with the little tune...”-Paul Tripp, *Tubby the Tuba*

Directions:

Step 1: Getting Ready

- Stand in a circle and make sure everyone in your ensemble (group) has plenty of room to move within.
- Decide who will go first, second, third, etc., as each individual will take turns when creating and teaching their own movement.

Step 2: Show and learn the movements

- Person number one shares a movement and everyone else repeats the move to the best of their ability.
- Person number two adds a movement on to the first movement and then practice doing the two moves one right after the other.
- Continue this process, adding one movement and reviewing the whole dance each time, until everyone has had a turn.
- If you have a small ensemble of two or three, you may wish to keep adding movements until each person has had two turns to teach a movement.

Step 3: Add a little variety to your dance

- Play around with the tempo of your dance. Do the whole dance quickly (*allegro*) or slowly with feeling or “great expression” (*adagio*). Or maybe you want to perform some movements slowly and other quickly.
- Try moving *staccato*, so that each movement is sharp, separate and distinct. Dance it again *legato*, with long, continuous movements.
- Do you use a variety of levels? Are some movements high in the air, like jumps or twirls? Are others medium height or low to the ground? If all the movements are at one level, try adding a few movements at a different level.

Closing: Perform your dance and give yourselves a big round of applause. You can feel proud of yourselves. This special dance would never have existed if it weren’t for the choices and contributions of each person in your ensemble member.

Bonus: Watch and dance along to [this video](#) to warm up before choreographing your add-on dance or to keep the party going after!