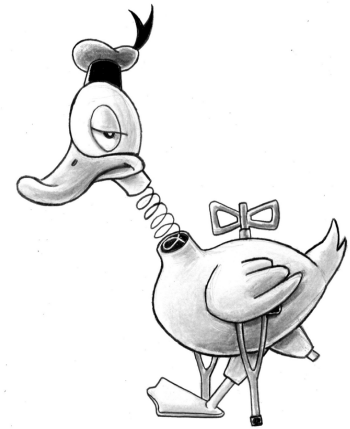


# The Dolly Doctor

Music	Rob van den Berg, Annick de Houwer, Sonja van den Elzen
Arrangement	Rob van den Berg
Dance	Maria Speth
Time	2/4 and 4/4 (C- parts)
Intro	2 bars
Formation	Front Circle or open space
Target group	suggested 4-8 years
Materials	(broken) toys, wind-up toys, pop-up dolls



## Background Information

- Toys are made for playing ... until they break. Then they usually end up in the back of the closet. And nobody wants to play with them anymore. Luckily, the Dolly Doctor knows what to do. He makes sure that all of the broken toys get mended.
- It is valuable to first listen to the music together with the pupils. Are they able to identify the places in the music where the toys break? Are they also able to hear what is wrong with the toys?
- Play with the wording of the verse. Pause during the last line before screaming 'Broke!' giving the pupils the opportunity to fill in a (rhyming) last word. This offers a sudden and spontaneous change in atmosphere, from sadness to determination.
- The music in this dance is divided over 3 tracks. This enables the various parts of the dance to be studied separately.

## Dance Exploration

- What child does not sooner or later encounter broken toys? During a short introduction you can take inventory of toys that can possibly break, what the problem may be, how you can see it. This dance is all about wind-up toys, cuddly toys and pop-up dolls.
- **Wind-up toys:** move mechanically, stiff movements. There are many variations to discuss with the pupils. Rotational and hinge-like movements with the arms, the head, the body. Also, various movements such as walking, wobbling, shuffling, shaking, bending and stretching, turning, and waving, or moving in different directions. Give attention to variation in tempo. Use a drum, claves or other percussion instruments to assist during practice of the slower movements. The last piece of movement, in particular, can be very exciting!
- Sometimes the toys remain within a certain movement, and then you see repetition of that same movement. Such as, a car that continuously drives in circles, or a wind-up duck that can no longer flip over but continues to bump into the chair leg... until the Dolly Doctor arrives!
- **Cuddly toys** take a special place, even though they may be falling apart, their arms and legs dangling while walking, and flopping back and forth. Allow the pupils to experience the feeling of dangling body limbs. Can you move your arms differently when you bend forwards?
- The bears trudge along and wobble and sometimes sink upon their own sad little broken legs... until the Dolly Doctor arrives!

- **Pop-up Dolls** appear and disappear, they peak out and slowly appear, when they are fully out and visible, they can turn and wave. Rising little by little (playing with time and space) can be supported with the use of a Temple block by ticking on the tubes the pupils rise, rubbing over the ribs they sink back down. You can bring variation in with long and short growing moments.
- However, sometimes this just doesn't work, the doll regularly sinks back down, sometimes isn't even able to rise above his container... until the Dolly Doctor arrives!

## Dance Structure

### Bars

#### Intro A

1-4 the pupils sit in a circle or freely in open space

A a1

1-8 the pupils sing the song in the circle

#### Interlude

1-2 the pupils stand

B b

1-15 the pupils dance as broken wind-up toys

#### Bridge

Open the Dolly Doctor... do not move!

C c

1-8 the toys are repaired and can dance, again

#### Intro A2

1-4 the pupils sit back in the circle or freely in open space

A a2

1-8 repeat a1

#### Interlude

1-2 the pupils stand

B2 b2

1-9 the pupils dance the broken cuddly toy

#### Bridge

Open the Dolly Doctor... do not move!

C c2

1-8 the toys are repaired and can dance, again

#### Intro A3

1-4 the pupils sit back in the circle or freely in open space



A a3  
1-8 repeat a1

Interlude  
1-2 the pupils crouch down small

B3 b3  
1-9 the pupils dance as broken pop-up dolls

Bridge  
Open the Dolly Doctor... do not move!

C c3  
1-8 the toys are repaired and can dance, again



## Lyrics

I am not happy, can't you see?  
No one ever plays with me.  
Laying here and feeling bad  
I am ...KAPUT!!!

Intro: 4 bars

am em dm em am  
I'm not hap- py can't you see? No one e- ver plays with me. Lay- ing

dm em am  
here and fee- ling bad I am KAPUT!!!

## Tips

- Bringing real toys can help in clarifying the lesson, wind-up toys come in all sizes and sorts. Observe how the toy moves as it slows down and eventually stops.
- The above ideas are only suggestions. There are naturally, many other types of toys that can benefit from a visit by the Dolly Doctor, to dance and move again.
- The music fragment that announces the arrival of the Dolly Doctor sounds magical. A suggestion from the work field: allow a pupil to don a white doctor's jacket and provide a magic wand and to wander through the room fixing/curing the toys.