

# Hip Hop Study Guide

## Vocabulary Terms:

- **Battles** - Formal or informal freestyle dance competitions.
- **Break-dancing** – A street dance style that evolved as part of the hip hop movement.
- **Graffiti** – Images or lettering scratched, scrawled, painted or marked in any manner on property.

## Hip Hop Facts:

- A dance crew is a team of street dancers who come together to develop new moves and battle other crews.
- As hip-hop culture spread throughout New York City, the more often breaking crews got together to battle against each other.
- All styles of hip-hop are rooted in battling and being a part of a crew was the only way to learn when these styles began because they were not taught in studios: they all started out as social dances.
- Hip-hop social dancing (party dancing) began when hip-hop musical artists started to release songs with an accompanying dance. In 1990, rapper MC Hammer created the Hammer dance and popularized it in his music video "U Can't Touch This".
- Forming and participating in a crew is how street dancers practiced, improved, made friends, and built relationships.
- In breaking in particular, battling is how b-boys/b-girls improved their skill.
- Crews still form based on friendships and neighborhoods.
- In the 1970s, b-boy crews were neighborhood-based and would engage in battles held at local block parties called "jams".
- Today crews can battle in organized competitions with other crews from around the world.