Dance planner: Rona and the Moon

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic/theme</th>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Duration</th>
<th>Curriculum level</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Myths and legends</td>
<td>Years 3 to 4</td>
<td>Unit = 4 to 6 weeks</td>
<td>Level 2</td>
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<td>Lesson = 40 minutes</td>
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**Brief description of unit:** This is part of a whole-school focus on myths and legends. Through dance movements focusing on the elements of dance (space – pathways and shape, and relationships – mirroring) the Maori myth of Rona and the Moon is explored.

**Strands and AOs**

**Developing Practical Knowledge in Dance – PK**
AO: Students will identify and explore through movement the dance elements of body awareness, space, time, energy, and relationships.
Focus: Students experiment with spatial relationships by mirroring, shape-making, and exploring a variety of locomotive and non-locomotive pathway movements.

**Developing Ideas in Dance – DI**
AO: Students will initiate and express dance ideas based on a variety of stimuli.
Focus: Students make and combine movement sequences to describe their ideas about the myth Rona and the Moon.

**Communicating and Interpreting in Dance – CI**
AO: Students will share dance through informal presentation, and describe how dance expresses ideas and feelings.
Focus: Students perform by sharing their Rona and the Moon dances with an audience. The observers respond by recognising and describing characters’ shapes, pathways, etc.

**Understanding Dance in Context – UC**
AO: Students will demonstrate an awareness of dance as part of community life.
Focus: Students share experiences of dance seen in different environments.

**Key language:** space; locomotive, non-locomotive movements; indirect, arching, curving pathways; round, full shapes; mirroring, pulling and pushing relationships.

**Learning outcomes**
Students will be able to:
- work in groups to combine a dance sequence by mirroring shapes and pathways;
- perform practised movement sequences in groups;
- demonstrate appropriate audience skills by observing, recognising and commenting.

**Resources**
A variety of CDs, for example,

**Equipment**
A CD player

Accessed from The Arts Online Professional Development
http://www.tki.org.nz/r/arts/artspd/implementation/units6_e.php
Teaching and learning sequence:
Choose from the ideas in the Rona and the Moon dance unit on The Arts Online Professional Development website: http://www.tki.org.nz/r/arts/artspd/implementation/units6_e.php

Assessment focus: What information are you looking for? Refer to the LOs.

Form of assessment: How will the information be obtained?

Reflection:

This unit was developed by Catherine Kelly, Auckland College of Education