

TOP Dance: Man-made or natural...

Outer Space

Topic, theme or idea

Planets, man on the moon, satellites

9



Stimuli

- Facts about the solar system
- "The Planets" by Holst
- Pictures of the solar system
- Poems about planets



Word bank

moon light comet satellites stars round galaxy gravity axis atmosphere planets blackhole bombard spin sun

Select a focus

Planets of the solar system

Choose movement words

Loop, stamp, float, travel, still, rise, fall, jump, explode, shapes.

Develop movement vocabulary and motifs

- ▶ Play a track from Holst's "The Planets", e.g. Mars.
- ▶ Children should describe what type of planet they think this is including what colour is it, how would it look and what it represents, e.g. Mars is a god of war and agriculture, red in colour, powerful, strong.
- ▶ Explore movements that represent Mars using the action words and music as a stimulus.
- ▶ Imagine landing on Mars.
- ▶ How much would you weigh, how would you move, what would you see, how would you feel?
- ▶ Working in groups of three, find positions and actions that represent different facts about this planet, e.g. A represents war, being angry and strong, B represents the streams, high mountains and a big volcano, C represents what it would be like to be on Mars.

Create a movement phrase

- ▶ To show how a planet would move in orbit, e.g. Mars is a superior planet and moves in **looping** motions at **angular speeds**. Mars moves **steadily** and **continuously**. Use these dynamics words to determine how to perform actions explored in response to the music.

Developing the movement phase into a dance using STEP

- S** Experiment with actions that represent Mars using a personal space and contrast these with how Mars moves in space.
- T** Use research about other planets to demonstrate different actions. Use whole and individual body parts.
- E** Place objects around the room to represent what might be on the planet. Explore ways to perform the movement phrases around, under and through the objects. Discuss how this changes the movement phrase.
- P** Work with a partner to combine motifs to represent different planets. Do the movement contrast to show the differences? Explore and select the 'best' movements to link together.



Skills

Example

Thinking Me

Explore	Experiment	What different ways have you tried to turn action words into movement?
Compose	Adapt	How have you changed your initial ideas to show effective use of weight dynamics?
Perform	Compare	Explain the similarities and differences between how you and other people represent the planets in movements.

Social Me

Explore	Co-operate	How can you work together to create a dance phrase?
Compose	Negotiate	When deciding on which movement ideas to use for a group dance, how did you reach agreement?
Perform	Group work	Describe what is needed to choreograph and perform a group dance.

Healthy Me

Explore	Make informed choices	Which movements did you enjoy performing? Demonstrate and say why?
Compose	Understanding health benefits	What are the health benefits of dancing? (in addition to the physical)
Perform	Perseverance	How can practice help to improve your performance?

Physical Me

Explore	Spatial awareness	Describe the contrasting effects of using personal and general space for your movements representing Mars.
Compose	Use of props	How did the music influence your selection and combination of movements?
Perform	Controlled movements	Which parts of the body help to perform controlled movements?

Resources

- 🎵 "Spaceman" Babylon Zoo. "Across the Universe" The Beatles
- "Ground Control to Major Tom" David Bowie
- Theme from Star Trek - Mr. Spock's music from Outer Space Star Trek
- Star Wars theme music



- @ www.kidsastronomy.com – facts about the solar system including pictures, songs, worksheets and games
- www.nakedeyepianets.com/movements.htm - how the planets move together in orbit
- www.poetry4kids.wordpress.com/tag/poems-about-planets - poetry about planets.
- Images http://www.google.co.uk/search?q=images+of+space&hl=en&rlz=1T4SUNA_enGB311GB220&prmd=ivnsu&tbn=isch&tbo=u&source=univ&sa=X&ei=eT72TbffEtGv8QO-wZmSBw&ved=0CCQQAQ&biw=1259&bih=494 – various images of planets and outer space

Learning connections

- Science**
How do satellites work.
Astronomy.
- History of space travel/aviation/ Greek mythology**
- Design & Technology**
Building models of the solar system, satellites and rockets.
- Literacy**
Creative writing. Life on other planets.
Travelling in space, aliens.

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