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Integrating migrant children in schools through artistic expression



Module 4: Our Shared Environment Theme 4A: Movement and Film

Prepared by Bath Spa University

Theme 4A Focus: Movement and film

Theme 4A uses a range of expressive media, to explore how humans build and share understanding of ourselves and our relationships with others through the different environments we inhabit.

Learning Activities develop responses in movement and film through:

- ▶ Visual Art: collage, film and photography
- ▶ Performance: dance and movement
- ▶ Literacy: discussion, poetry and song

Learning Resources & Materials

Materials:

- ▶ Coloured paper, collage materials, glue and scissors
- ▶ Viewfinders
- ▶ Cameras/phones

Resources:

- ▶ Exploration of the landscape and natural world.
- ▶ Additional weblinks provide exemplification and support



Water (CC0 Public Domain)
<https://pxhere.com/en/photo/779896>

Expressing nature through movement

Introduction All Levels:



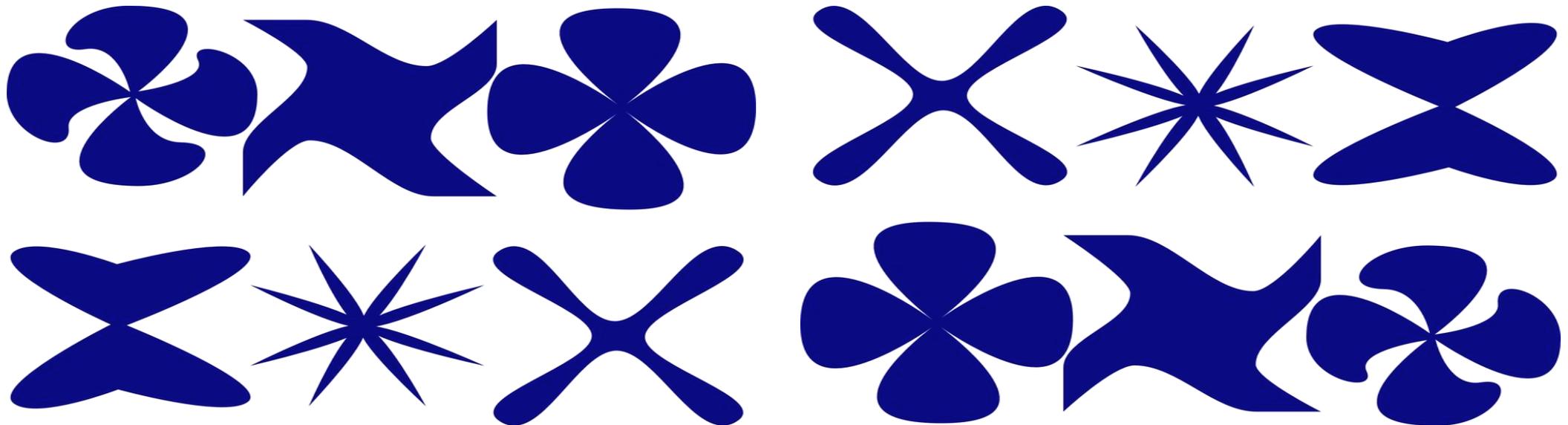
Performance art (CC0 Public Domain)
<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Poi>

- ▶ Communicate natural elements through movement: earth, wind, water, fire
- ▶ Look at examples of artwork based on natural elements and movement
- ▶ Express ideas about nature through movement and dance e.g. animal and bird characteristics and movements

Expressing nature through movement and dance

Level 1: Learning Activity: Shape Cut-outs

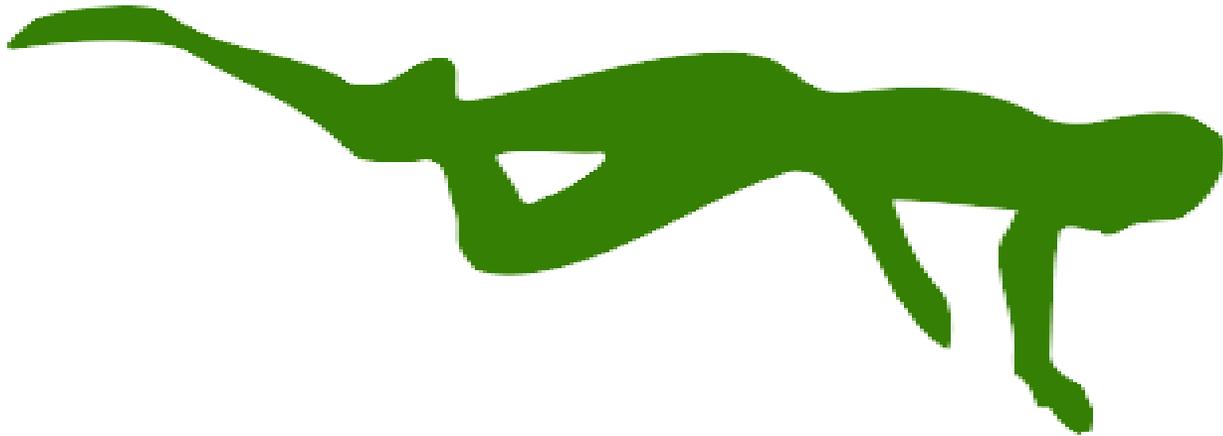
- ▶ Look at shapes and patterns in nature e.g. sky, landscapes, sea, rivers.
- ▶ Make collage cut-outs using coloured or painted paper
- ▶ Respond to cut-outs by making a range of similar body shapes e.g. twisted, curved, straight, narrow, closed, wide.



Expressing nature through movement and dance

Level 2: Learning Activity : Silhouette Cut-outs

- ▶ Make shapes with your body - these can be inspired by music.
- ▶ Create cut-out silhouettes in coloured paper based on the shapes
- ▶ Link the shapes together and create movement and dance actions e.g. travel, turn, gesture, jump, interlock, float.



Silhouette CC0 Public Domain

https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Silhouette_1330272.svg



Silhouette Movement (CC0 Public Domain)

<https://www.goodfreephotos.com/people/silhouette-of-movement-at-night.jpg.php>

Expressing nature through movement and dance

Level 3: Learning Activity: Collage Cut-outs

- ▶ Look at Collage cut-outs on the Matisse website:
<https://www.henrimatisse.org/cut-outs.jsp>
- ▶ Make collage cut-outs based on movement in nature e.g. animals, people, landscape.
- ▶ Create individual and group dances based on collage cut-outs - show variety and contrast in dancers' actions, space and relationships.



Matisse(CC BY-SA4.0)

https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:L%27exposition_%22De_Matisse_%C3%A0_nos_jours%22.jpg

Expressing nature through film and photography

Level 1 Learning Activity: Viewing Nature

- ▶ Use different viewing devices to look carefully at the natural environment e.g. hands, fingers, cut/torn paper viewfinders, cardboard tubes etc.
- ▶ Look at close objects e.g. grass, spider's web, and faraway objects e.g. mountains, horizon.
- ▶ Draw the different views you see.
- ▶ Take photographs to capture aspects of the near and far environment.

Images courtesy of Forest of Imagination
<http://www.forestofimagination.org.uk/>



Expressing nature through film and photography

Level 2 Learning Activity: Viewing Nature

- ▶ **Watch: *Nature video*** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W1IrSlVpSuE>
- ▶ Look **UP** at nature: trees - sky - mountains - how does it make you feel?
- ▶ Create artwork, take photographs, make a film with your phone/camera.



Image courtesy of Forest of Imagination



CCO Public Domain

<https://www.goodfreephotos.com/astrophotography/man-staring-at-a-starry-sky.jpg.php>

Expressing nature through film and photography

Level 3: Learning Activity: Favourite View in Nature

- ▶ **Watch:** *Nature: the Worlds Most Relaxing Film*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r3fE6FQT82s>

- ▶ **Group discuss:** what is your favourite view in nature e.g. beach, forest?
- ▶ Make a mural/large picture together that includes your favourite views.
- ▶ Make a film that expresses your group response to your favourite views.



Image courtesy of Forest of Imagination

Expressing nature through film and dance

Level 1: Learning Activity: Sound & Movement

- ▶ Watch Video: [The Flight of the Starlings](#)
- ▶ Respond through dance and movement to the sounds and images of starlings' murmuration.
- ▶ Mimic the starlings' movements and sound - how does the sound affect your movements?



The Flight of the Starlings:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V4f_1_r80RY

Expressing nature through film and dance

Level 2 Learning Activity: Sound & Movement

- ▶ Watch Video: *Beach Birds* (1993) by Merce Cunningham:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ci0ua-gzz4Q>
- ▶ Watch Video: *Native American Pride Eagle Dance*:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Q9zE7O8NKb0>
- ▶ How do the dancers express the birds' movements?
- ▶ Create a bird dance of your choice.
- ▶ Create clear sound & movement motifs to vary & develop the dance.



(CCPD)
<https://www.google.com/freephotos.com/animals/birds/birds-taking-off-in-flight-from-the-beach.jpg.php>



(CCBY2.0)
[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Bald_Eagle_Alaska_\(10\).jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Bald_Eagle_Alaska_(10).jpg)

Expressing nature through film and dance

Level 3 Learning Activity: Sound & Movement

► Watch Video: *Forest* (1977):

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=67e8RcnLRu8>

- Devise a group dance about the forest or another natural environment.
- Add animals to the environment:
- Watch Video: *Still Life at the Penguin Café* (1998): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uvEUrtGkw0U>
- Show variety and contrast in movement, space, dynamics, relationships, sound.
- Film your dance.

Image courtesy of 5x5x5=creativity



All Levels: Dance Round the World

► Watch Video *Globe Trot*

50 film-makers in 23 countries created *Globe Trot*!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uXgYKU9F-0>

- Try out some of the dances.
- Create your own *Globe Trot*
- Film it!



Pixabay CCPD:

<https://pixabay.com/vectors/kids-dance-play-catching-rain-boy-305266/>

Further Learning Resources

Examples of films that profile the power of dance/movement in relation to wilderness within the global environment

‘Wilderness’ (2015) by Tony Adigun:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fBk1I4WDbKs>

‘Forest’ (1977) by Robert Cohan:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=67e8RcnLRu8>

‘Still Life at the Penguin Café’ (1998) by David Bintley:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uvEUrtGkw0U>

‘Boy’ (1995) by Peter Anderson and Rosemary Lee

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JgvxzNBfJNA>

‘Migration’ (2017) by Sandy Silva :

<https://vimeo.com/185881794>

Additional links:

www.makingvideodance.com

<https://www.dancemagazine.com/dance-environment-2588230046.html>

<http://www.ilandart.org/dance-project/>