

Light and Dark

Year 1

Subject Focus: Light and dark

★ Dance

Objectives Pupils will learn to:

- identify a number of light sources of different kinds
- make comparisons between light sources in terms of brightness or colour
- ★ respond to different stimuli with a range of actions
- ★ copy simple movement patterns from each other and explore the movement
- ★ choose movements to make into their own phrases with beginnings, middles and ends
- ★ practise and repeat their movement phrases and perform them in a controlled way
- ★ use simple dance vocabulary to describe movement
- ★ talk about dance, linking movement to moods, ideas and feelings.

Activity

- Light a candle. Discuss what you can see, the movement and the colours of the flame.
- Stimulate discussion through questioning. When has candle light been used in the past and when do we use candles today? How do you feel in candle light? Why does it make you feel like that? What shadows can you make in candle light? How do you feel in the dark?
- Shine a torch. Discuss how the light differs from the candlelight.
- Choose some music to play while the children explore the movement of the flame, flickering, growing, dying, glowing, and spreading light.
- Lying on the floor explore different body parts leading as the flame grows e.g. lead with hand, elbow, hip, foot.
- Practise whole class beginning on floor and growing, dying, growing, flickering and spreading until all are standing to form a tall, still flame shape.
- Put to music and perform asking the children to watch each other's work and comment on how the quality of the movement reflects the movement of a growing flame.
- Explore making patterns on the floor with the light from the torch while standing still and while on the move.
- In pairs the children play follow the leader. With the torch light the leader slowly makes a pathway/pattern on floor for partner to follow.
- Swap roles.
- Put flame and torch moves together, children choose own part of body to lead with as the growing flame then take turns with partner to lead each other with torch.
- **Suggested dance** - in pairs the children begin tucked on knees on floor with torch in between them switched on pointing downwards giving a glowing effect. Everyone begins growing and dying slowly leading with a hand until standing as a still flame. Quickly flame is "blown out" and everyone returns to starting position. Pairs now perform own growing actions leading with their chosen body part, mirroring partner's actions. In turn pairs lead each other with torchlight, first person while slowly on the move, second person around body. End the dance by repeating the flame moves, each pair beginning these moves in their own time so that flames "blow out" at staggered intervals until whole group is in stillness, back in starting position.

