

Choreography Design Template: The Movement Lab

Learning objective: To compose and refine a short dance sequence, exploring motifs, levels, and transitions with precision and control.

Use this template to plan your own dance routine. Think about how Max the monkey might use maths to create patterns in movement, or how Zara the zebra might find art in the shapes your body makes. Fill in each section to prepare your choreography for performance.

Word bank: Unison · Canon · Motif · Staccato · Fluid · Transition · Level · Dynamics · Sequence · Tempo

1. The Concept: Describe the theme or mood of your dance. What story or idea are you trying to communicate through your movement? (2 marks)

2. The Motif: Create a signature movement or 'motif' for your dance. Describe the shape, speed, and body parts involved. Why does this movement represent your theme? (3 marks)

3. Using Levels: Explain how you will incorporate different levels (high, medium, and low) into your routine. How does changing levels affect the audience's perception of your dance? (3 marks)

4. Pattern and Structure: Describe the spatial patterns you will use (e.g., zig-zags, circles, or diagonal lines). How do these patterns enhance the visual impact of your performance? (3 marks)

5. The Transition: Justify your choice of transition between two sections of your dance. How do you ensure the flow remains smooth and controlled? (4 marks)

6. Evaluation: If you were to perform this dance for an audience, what might happen if you increased the tempo of the final section? How would this change the mood? (4 marks)

Extension challenge: Creative Challenge: Choreograph a sequence using 'Canon' (where dancers perform the same movement one after another). Compare and contrast the effect of performing your motif in unison versus in canon. Justify which method is more effective for your chosen theme.