

The Haka

Activity title:	The Haka
Curriculum area:	Dance
NC objectives:	1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, 2.1 & 3b
Main learning objective	To produce an original and innovative dance.

Timing	Lesson plan ideas, activities and resource sheets
INTRODUCTION	• If this lesson plan is being used in conjunction with Music lesson plan 1.2, recap on the chants that the students wrote. Students could perform their chants.
15 minutes	 Access the Internet and search Google for 'the Haka' (many different versions are available from official sources or sites like YouTube - check quality and suitability beforehand). Watch the selected clip and ask the students how the actions match the chant i.e. aggressive, in time, etc.
	• Warm up - use simple stomping and stepping to music to gain awareness of moving to a beat. Simple clapping to a four beat track will help to remind students about the rhythm of a chant.

Continued







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MAIN ACTIVITY	•	Remind students that in 1905 Gloucester played the All Blacks - this was a very significant event as touring teams had
30 minutes		not been established! Use PowerPoint 5.1a to highlight this as a stimulus and re-visit the internet haka you used previously to stimulate the students.
	•	In groups/pairs they must now work out a routine for their own Haka. As mentioned before, if this lesson is part of the music lesson 1.2 then their actions must match the chant that they have already written. If not, they can adapt the meaning behind the Haka and interpret it into their own actions. Remember, the aim of the Haka is to speak to the 'Gods' and to intimidate the opposition.
PLENARY	•	Recap on the concept of a beat in the chant.
5 minutes	•	Highlight how movements can match words and how to get feelings across $$ i.e. aggression

Suggested extension activities or cross curricular links:

- Can the students produce a Haka for the school motto?
- Give students a poem or text to produce the dance for.



