**Activity: Dance Careers** 

**Theme: Health and Wellbeing** 

- 1. As a class, view the clip, *Injury*, where Tara is recovering from a fracture and soft tissue injuries as a result of a fall.
- 2. If time allows, watch *Dance Academy* episode 20, *Ballet Fever*, as a class and discuss how and why Tara received her injury and what implications it has for her future as a dancer.
- 3. Discuss the career span of a professional dancer with the students. You can compare this to the career span of a footballer or other elite athletes. Ask students to research the career of a particular dancer. In particular, have them find out how long they were a dancer for. Develop a class graph where students pinpoint their dancer within the graph as per the length of time he/she was a professional dancer. The class could then calculate the average 'career-span' of a professional dancer. You could compare this graph with one developed for a group of sports people, musicians, or any other professional group.
- 4. In the clip, *Injury*, we see that Davo has injured himself so badly that he will never recover enough to perform at the level required for a professional dancer. A professional dancer in Australia usually begins serious full-time training (6 days a week, up to 8 hours a day) between 15-18 years of age. This physical intensity and the hours continue when the student moves into the professional arena. By the time a person is 30 years of age, multiple injuries incurred over the years will impact on the dancer's performance. Many dancers retire from full-time professional dance in their early to mid-30s, though some do continue to perform in their 40's and 50's. (This is particularly true in Russian dance companies where the dancers have very long careers due to state funding and the size of the companies.)
- 5. As a class, discuss with students career options for Davo should he decide to stay within the dance industry. Career pathways may include: teacher, coach, choreographer, rehearsal master, director of a company, producer, costumer, designer, a role in stage management, administration, promotion, choreologist, dietitian to dancers, physiotherapist, podiatrist, career advisor, Pilates instructor and many more. Ask students to complete **Student**

**Episode 21: FOMO: Fear of Missing Out** 

Clip: Injury

**Activity: Dance careers** 

**Activity Sheet E21.2: Dance Careers**. Students should select and research a dance related career and present this research project as a multimedia presentation.

## Download

• Student Activity Sheet E21.2: Dance Careers

## Useful resources

- Ausdance Safe Dance Reports
- Ausdance Factsheet 18: Occupational health & safety for the dance industry
- Ausdance Sustainable Careers for Dance Artists
- Australian Government Job Guide
- Deakin Careers and Student Profiles Dance
- University of Illinois Career Services Office Careers in Dance



## **Dance Careers**

In the box below, there are just a few fields of work that can relate to dance.

Rehearsal Master	Costume Designer Pilates Instructor	
Company Director	Physiotherapist	Dietitian
Stage Manager	Career Advisor Choreologist	
Administrator	Choreographer	Podiatrist
Marketing Guru	Teacher	
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Marketing Guru	reacriei		
Put the words in the box	above into the sente	nces below	19
A	of dance instructs da	ance students, giving hints and tips on to	echnique.
The person who puts all	the moves together f	or a dance routine is called a	
Theperformances.	makes a	rtistic choices about the company and th	16
The	gets the dan	cers ready to work with the choreograph	ner.
The	creates the c	clothes for the dancers to perform in.	
The majority of the pape	erwork is often taken o	care of by the	
Most major companies es		to ensure that people he	ear about the
The detail of every move	ement is recorded by	the	
To ensure that dancers	have optimum levels	of energy and minimum weight gain they	/ will see a
Athey will be treated by the		ne dancers stay injury free and if they ha	ve an injury,
Dancer's feet will be tak	en care of by a		
When a dancer gets to t	he end of their perfor	ming career, they will seek the help of a	

## Episode 21: FOMO: Fear of Missing Out Clip: Injury

Α	will ensure that da	_ will ensure that dancers have excellent core strength and are in		
excellent physical co	ndition.			
The	ensures	ensures that all shows run smoothly behind the scenes and on		
the stage.				
Pick one of the profe profession. Include in		e to research. Find five fast facts about each		
Is there an accredited course for this job?		Are there many people doing this already?		
Where is the course and how long is it?		Is this role in demand?		
How much do you earn doing this job?		Name a famous person in this role.		
Define this role.		What are the pros and cons of this job?		
What hours do profes	ssionals in this role work?			
Enter your five fast fa	acts in the table below:			
1				
2				
3				
4				
5				