

Clip: Choreographing Dance

Episode 7: Crush Test Dummies

Activity: Space – Spatial Organisation

Theme: Dance Skills

Elements of dance: body, space, time, dynamics, relationships

1. As a class, view the clip, *Choreographing Dance*. The dancers in Ethan's choreography are focused during their performance. Ask the students
 - a. What the term 'focus' means to them?
 - b. When are they most 'focused'?
 - c. How does 'focus' improve their performance for sport, academic study, crossing the road?
2. Re-view the clip again and ask students to observe and list elements of spatial organisation such as; use of direction (forward, back, sideways, up, down, across, zig zag, diagonal, over, under, around, between), level (high, medium, low), focus and dimension (small, large).
3. Have students perform a warm-up routine and then ask them to walk out their initials on the floor, creating a pathway in the shape of their initials. They should end with a combined phrase of four or more initials.
4. Now direct the students to change the combined phrase by changing levels, focus and dimension. They should refer to **Student Activity Sheet E7.5: Space - Spatial Organisation Tool** to guide them.
5. Rehearse these phrases until students can perform without verbal discussion. Have students perform their phrase for the class.
6. Ask students to reflect on their task and choreography by sketching their initials and detailing the initials with annotations about what they did, and where and when in the performance.

Download

- Student Activity Sheet E7.5: Space - Spatial Organisation Tool

Useful resources

- [Ausdance Factsheet 16, Caring for the dancer's body](#)
- [Ausdance Factsheet 7, Safe dance floors](#)
- [Ausdance Factsheet 13, Safe spaces for dance](#)
- [Ausdance Factsheet 11, Producing a dance performance](#)
- [We are Pi: TEDxSUMMIT - The Power of X](#)
- [YouTube, Step on the Beat - Shape Maker/Shape Explorer - Exploring Positive and Negative Space](#)
- [YouTube, negative space = positive space](#)

NAME:

Student Activity Sheet: E7.5
 Activity: Space - Spatial Organisation

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Space - Spatial Organisation Tool

Keeping true to your initials, see if you can add any of the following to create interest in your dance. You can also add your own tools if you can think of some...

Level	Focus	Dimension
	<i>With the eyes</i>	
Try to complete the whole dance on the floor	Eyes looking at each other One person watching the other Avoiding eye contact	How small can you be while completing the dance?
Each partner uses a different level	Looking down Looking the audience in the eyes	Can you and your partner create some shapes while you move?
How often can you change levels?	Looking through the audience	How close can you and your partner be while moving?
	<i>With the body</i>	
Try keeping one part of your body at the same level and the rest of the body changing levels	Accentuate the movement of one body part (elbow/nose/hips/etc.) Initiate the movement with one part of the body (mouth/toes/hands/torso/etc.) Keep a part of your body focused at one part of the room/person	(Perhaps using different levels) Try mirroring each other's movement Try alternating between big and small movements as often as possible.