

Episode 26: Learning to Fly, Part 2

Clip: Performance

Activity: Superstitions

Theme: Dance Knowledge

1. As a class, view the clip, *Performance*, and discuss how the costume Tara selected for Act II is considered to be a good luck charm. After her disastrous rehearsal without the costume, and the contrasting 'charmed' rehearsal once she wears the dress, Tara believes in this superstition with all her heart.
2. Have students explain their understanding of what a 'superstition' is. Ask them to list some of the superstitions they have heard of and/or believe, and label each a 'good' or 'bad' omen.
3. Ask the students to complete a basic online research about 'superstitions' from other cultures and document these. The websites listed in *Useful resources* may be helpful. As a class, compile a list of superstitions practiced in the past or still current today. Discuss the commonalities between the superstitions, particularly, where and how they came to be believed.
4. List the 'superstitions' that the students researched on a board or IWB. Ask individual students to underline the verbs or adjectives in the superstitions they have found using **Student Activity Sheet E26.4: Superstitions**, or they can use the phrases below as examples:
 - a. Carry a coin with a hole in it for good luck.
 - b. Carry a bent coin for good luck.
 - c. Throw a coin into a fountain and make a wish.
 - d. Finding a coin in the rain is good luck.
 - e. Carrying a coin with your date of birth on it is good luck.
 - f. Picking up a coin from the ground that is heads-up is good luck.
 - g. Keeping a jar of pennies in the kitchen brings good luck.
 - h. Turn over a silver coin in your pocket when you see a full moon. Make a wish.

5. Individually, have students select one or two of the ideas to inspire movement for a “lucky” dance. Additionally, you can pair the students and ask them to select a couple of movements and to refine the phrase further.

Download

- Student Activity Sheet E26.4: Superstitions

Useful resources

- Topics Online Magazine: [Superstitions from Around the World](#)
- [Wingie's World Wide Superstitions](#)



NAME:

Student Activity Sheet:
Activity:

E26.4
Superstitions

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Performance

Superstitions

Using the superstitions you found, or the superstitions below, underline/highlight the verbs.

- Carry a coin with a hole in it for good luck
- Carry a bent coin for good luck
- Throw a coin into a fountain and make a wish.
- Finding a coin in the rain is good luck
- Carrying a coin with your date of birth on it is good luck
- Picking up a coin from the ground that is heads up is good luck
- Keeping a jar of pennies in the kitchen brings good luck
- Turn over a silver coin in your pocket when you see a full moon. Make a wish.

Then make a list of all the verbs in the space below:

Using these verbs, along with any other ideas, create a little 'lucky dance.'