**Commonwealth games: incorporating dance into a thematic day.**

**Subject Knowledge**

* Understanding of what the Commonwealth games are, where they originated and are held (History).
* Which countries are in the Commonwealth and what sports are involved.
* In regards to dance and music, it would be essential to know what types of these originate in the Commonwealth countries; but this can be a task with students (Research).
* Incorporating geography and where the countries are on the map.
* Knowledge of fashion and embellishments for special occasions (Design technology and Art).
* Knowledge of festivals in the Commonwealth countries and where the dances are used (R.E.).

**Pedagogical Content Knowledge**

* To introduce the task of performing in an opening ceremony, show the children the most recent opening ceremony of the Commonwealth games – use open questioning and class discussion to share ideas and thoughts.
* Showing children an example of one of the Commonwealth countries and their dancing/music. Teacher could dress up in costume to start off with ‘wow’ moment.
* Pupils are to research into what countries are in the Commonwealth, then coming back together as a class.
* Assign pupils one country in groups of four or five, then they can use the internet and books to research into the traditional dance, music and dress. The children can choose their own music in which will be linked into one continuous piece with the other children’s music.
* The groups have the chance to feed back their countries and type of dance to the class, in which they decide an order for their whole class routine.
* The children are then given time to rehearse in their groups with teacher input and improvement to be given verbally.
* Once the children have rehearsed in their small groups they can start to follow on from one another to create the sequence.
* Once all the music and the order is finalised, children can edit it together to form one piece of music using editing software (I.C.T.).
* Children could also use their skills learned in textiles to create costumes.

**Our Planning Process**

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