

Lessons

Music

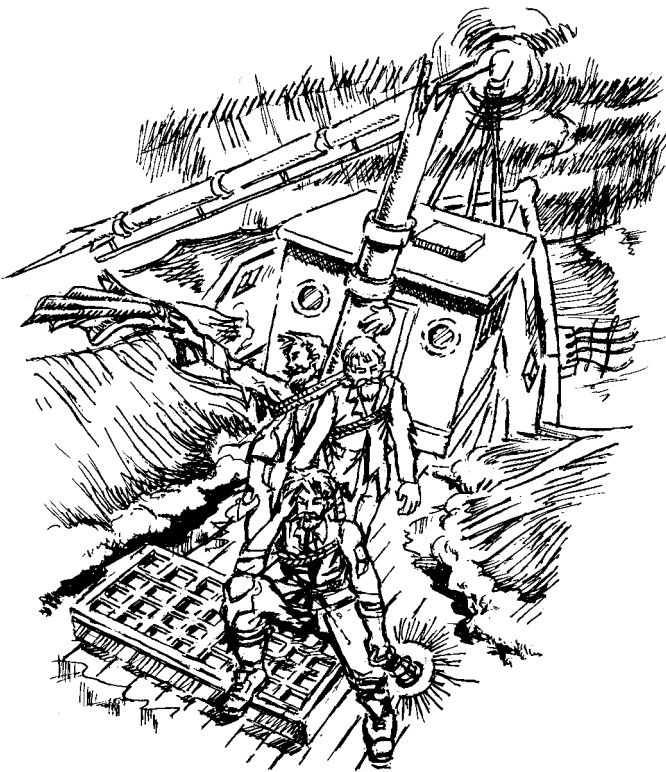
Links

Productions

# A Dance Project for Schools

# THE BAY

Written by  
**Barbara Lipscomb**



# **THE BAY**

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## **A Primrose Primary School Dance Project**

**Written by Barbara Lipscomb**

**Illustrations by Lastwolf**

**Music by David Harry**

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# THE BAY

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# THE BAY

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## Prologue & Foreword

The Primrose Dance Project was based at first on 'WATER', the presence and absence of water, and how this affects life on this planet called EARTH.

The good and bad sides were considered. Drought, floods, disaster, destruction were seen to be the negative effects. Counter balanced by the drink, food, transport, business, prosperity and pleasure the presence of water can provide.

Rain, rivers, waterfalls, lakes, canals, oceans sprung to mind.

Waterwheels, hydro-electricity using the power, the power of water.

Very many ideas were forming. Maybe too many! So a narrowing of focus took place, and a search began, for a topic to encompass these features we had identified.

Was there somewhere in the world that reflected these features?

Somewhere that was blessed with water that came and went. A place that had built industries on the presence of water, but had also suffered from its cruelty.

The choice became easy! A bay with tidal water that comes and goes, a bay with history and folklore, a bay with industry past, present and future.

THE BAY becomes a Primrose Dance Project.

And as Primrose Education Resources are based in Lancaster, Lancashire, the bay chosen for study and inspiration is, of course, Morecambe Bay.

Barbara Lipscomb

# THE BAY

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## Introduction

The purpose of Primrose Dance Projects is the provision of a series of topics developed into creative dance lessons. The topics are chosen to match the age, ability and interests of the children. Preparatory visits and a variety of classroom activities can augment the pupils understanding of the topic.

The topics are broken down into component parts, which are set out in a simple structure for a dance lesson.

An accompanying CD has a soundtrack with music and narrative created specifically around the topic. The words and music can be used as a stimulus and as an atmospheric background to the movements performed. Some tracks do provide precise rhythms to discipline the dance. Copyright provision with this pack permits you to make a copy of the CD onto cassette for use in your classes if you so wish.

A Music and Dance Map is sometimes used to give guidance to the teacher on the construction of the music and the possible pattern of the dance. Individual maps created by the teacher and/or class can also be used to plot out their dance ideas to the soundtrack.

The culmination of the Primrose Dance Project could be a Dance Production that uses all the experiences gained during the lesson based on the project. A fully cohesive dance production will demonstrate the skills and knowledge of the pupils to the school, parents, governors and general public. It is a worthwhile climax to a dance project.

# THE BAY

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## **Music on THE CD**

The CD accompanying this teaching pack has been created specifically for this project. The producer was an imaginative young man who had many creative friends. Barbara Lipscomb had the idea and wrote the scenario and narrative, and Dave Harry and his friends became engrossed. They all lived in Lancaster; they all appreciated the wealth of The Bay. They read about it, talked about it, sang about it, even wrote music about it! The result is an inspirational interpretation of the past, present and future of Morecambe Bay.

Some of the music used is traditional, some is uniquely original. The song "Surf in the Sunshine" was composed and performed by Janine Wells, a local friend and supporter of creative dance. The dramatic impact of the words used in the narration is directly due to the voice of Ted Richards. The tragedy and turmoil caused by the storms across the bay throughout the years is sympathetically dealt with.

The soundtrack is atmospheric and invigorating. It has been designed with dance needs in mind. Actions can be cued by words used, language is a potent stimulus. The music can shape sequences and discipline movements. We know your pupils will be motivated to tell this story in dance.

Teachers can copy the CD onto a cassette for the purpose of lessons and practices. Some teachers will set the scene first and then use the CD; others will let the class hear the CD and then create the dance. There is no rule, other than that which respects the shape, sentiment and intention of the soundtrack.

### **Contents of CD Soundtrack**

- Track One – The Fish Market; Business is brisk from this natural bounty.
- Track Two – Fisher Folk; Jobs need to be done, both on land and on sea.
- Track Three – Blustering Boreas; Wind and waves are brutal but man can be brave.
- Track Four – Bathing Belles and Beaux; beauties line up with moustachioed males.
- Track Five – A Bounty; Man takes another bounty from under the sea.
- Track Six – A Bonus; Leisure and pleasure, water sports for all.