

Matariki and the Space Pirates: a Hī Hā school production

CHOREO DANCES: Peke (Te Nūtube: Atareta Milne & Te Haakura Ihimaera-Manley); The Wreck of the Diddley (Fatcat & Fishface); Pūkeko (Aro); Taniwha in the Sun (Duan & Only/Aunty Bea); Tahi Rua Toru Whā (Anika Moa); Korimako (Aro); Kōtuku (Aro); **SINGING:** Tīrama Tīrama Ngā Whetū (Loopy Tunes)

COSTUMES:

Dance Groups: each dance group is divided equally into **Pirates** and **Aliens**. We suggest adding costume items over T-shirts (production tees available for purchase, or use your own)

Planets: See instructions. Mercury wears grey; Venus: brown and grey; Earth: blue, green, white; Mars: red, brown, tan; Jupiter: brown, orange, tan, white stripes; Saturn: golden, brown, blue-grey; Uranus: blue-green; Neptune: blue

Tama Nui Te Rā/Sun: See instructions

Te Marama/Moon: See instructions

Matariki & Whetū/Stars: See instructions

Mum and Dad: dressy evening wear

Stella and Rangi: pyjamas

Luna: cool teen clothes

Ghost Pirates & Alien Chiefs: as above

Black Hole: black clothes

Space Junk: a cardboard box with wires, knobs etc

Brainy Philosopher Dudes: hippy clothes, or however you imagine them!

PROPS: Bed (a mattress suitable for bouncing on); spyglass (optional); baby (a doll wrapped in a blanket); Jolly Roger flag; hand-mirror; cellphone

SOUND EFFECTS: A baby crying; doorbell; clock striking midnight (these could be voiced); a car pulling up

LIGHTING: If possible, a different light for home and outer space

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CHARACTERS:

Dance Groups: 1-7, each divided equally into **Pirates** and **Aliens** (*tamariki should invent a name to introduce themselves, e.g. Captain Wigglesworth / Madam Swashbuckler etc for pirates, Happyhoppy / Wigglewoggle etc for aliens.*) Dance groups also perform poems and actions stage-side as directed.

Main Characters:

Luna (babysitter)

Stella

Rangi

Matariki (f)

Other Characters:

Whetū/Stars (male+female): Puanga(f); Tupuānuku(f); Tupuārangi(m); Waitī(f); Waitā(m); Waipunarangi(f); Ururangi(m); Pōhutukawa(f); Hiwa-i-te-rangi(f)

Mum

Dad

Planets: Mercury; Venus; Earth; Mars; Jupiter; Saturn; Uranus; Neptune; Pluto

Tama Nui Te Rā/Sun

Te Marama/Moon

Ghost Pirates: 1 & 2

Alien Chiefs: Boingboing; Hoopla-hoopla

Black Hole

Space Junk

Brainy Philosopher Dudes: 1 & 2

Director's note:

If space permits, we suggest keeping all tamariki up- and side-stage during the show for quicker turn-arounds and so they can perform poems and actions throughout the show as directed. If this is not practical, a smaller group of children could remain onstage. Music for performances may be streamed directly from our website, but we recommend avoiding any internet connection problems by downloading the songs on Spotify or similar (search for the song titles or artists' names). Please note, music rights for public performance are not included. Schools should hold the standard One Music Schools Licence (most schools already have this.)

[SCENE 1: Home. A bedroom with a double bed.]
[Enter MUM, DAD rocking baby, RANGI, STELLA. MUM is hurriedly finishing dressing up to go out.]

MUM: Remember: your best behaviour for the babysitter. In bed by eight-thirty. We'll be home at midnight. And no bouncing on the bed!

[Doorbell]

DAD: Here's the babysitter now. **[Opens door.]** Kia ora!

LUNA: Tēnā koe, ko Luna ahau.

DAD: Kia ora, Luna! Kuhu mai! Come in, come in.

MUM: Kia ora, Luna!

RANGI [looking through spyglass]: Ahoy, me hearty! Ko Rangi tōku ingoa.

LUNA: Oh! Um, ahoy, Rangi!

MUM: Don't mind him. He loves pirates.

STELLA: Kia ora, Luna. Ko Stella tōku ingoa.

LUNA: Kia ora, Stella. Do you love pirates too?

STELLA: No, aliens are way cooler than pirates.

RANGI: Pirates!

STELLA: Aliens!

ALL PIRATES: Pirates!

ALL ALIENS: Aliens!

ALL PIRATES: Pirates!

ALL ALIENS: Aliens!

MUM: Stella! Rangi! Behave! Sorry, Luna.

DAD [giving the baby to Luna]: This is Celeste. She's teething, I'm afraid. Help yourself to tea and biscuits.

[The sound of a car pulling up]

That's our Uber! Let's go, darling. E noho rā!

LUNA: Haere rā!

MUM: Remember: your best behaviour for the babysitter. In bed by eight-thirty. We'll be home at midnight. And –

RANGI, STELLA: We know, we know! No bouncing on the bed!

[MUM and DAD leave. RANGI and STELLA look at each other, then run to the bed and start bouncing.]

LUNA [rocking baby]: Guys! Um... Why don't we play a nice *quiet* game?

RANGI: Arrr me hearties, let's play pirate ships!

STELLA: No, let's play spaceships! Let's travel the universe in search of aliens! Aliens are way cooler than pirates.

RANGI: Pirates!

STELLA: Aliens!

ALL PIRATES: Pirates!

ALL ALIENS: Aliens!

ALL PIRATES: Pirates!

ALL ALIENS: Aliens!

LUNA: Can't you stop arguing and work together? You're whānau.

RANGI, STELLA, ALL DANCE GROUPS:

I'll cross my arms, I'll shake my head **[Action: crossing arms, shaking head]**

You can't beat *me*, you knucklehead! **[Action: wagging finger]**

I'll stamp my feet, I'll squint and stare **[Action: stamping, staring]**

Two hands on hips, nose in the air. **[Action: hands on hips, nose in air]**

I'll shake my fists. You're wrong! I'm right! **[Action: shaking fists]**

I'll be the winner of this fight. ME! **[Action: pointing at self]**

LUNA: Okay, I have an idea. Let's play... space pirates! The bed can be an intergalactic pirate ship travelling into space in search of aliens!

RANGI: Space pirates? Arrr, I like it!

STELLA: Space pirates, yeah! And the spaceship can be powered by bouncing!

LUNA: Bouncing? Hold up, guys. I mean... avast, ye landlubbers, didn't your parents say *not* to bounce on the bed?

RANGI [crossing arms]: Fine! I'm not playing, then!

STELLA: Please can we bounce on the bed to power our spaceship? Pleeese?

ALL DANCE GROUPS: Pleeese? **[Action: begging]**

LUNA: Okay, okay. A spaceship powered by bouncing it is. Oh man, I'm going to get in so much trouble. Let's jump! E peke!

[Enter DANCE GROUP 1; dancers bow quickly and say their made-up names.]

[Dance: Peke]

RANGI [*waving the Jolly Roger*]: Keep bouncing, guys! E peke! Outer space, here we come! Up, up and away!

[STELLA, RANGI, LUNA and DANCE GROUPS jump.]

[SCENE 2: Space]

LUNA: Tumeke! The bouncing worked! We're in *space*!

To be continued...