



## **Taniwha, Taniwha!**

### **A Hī Hā Production**

This production is suitable for junior/middle school upwards. Please note, music rights for public performance are not included. Schools should hold the standard One Music Schools Licence.

It's the first night of school camp in Taniwha Valley, but no one can sleep. It's time for a scary bedtime story! But what happens when that story starts getting a little too real...?

Dances: Tahī, Rua Toru, Whā (Anika Mōa)  
Row, Kiwi, Row Your Boat (Pio Tereī)  
Taniwha, Taniwha! (Anika Mōa)  
I'm a Taniwha (JGeeks)  
Anei Ngā Taniwha (JGeeks)  
Taniwha in the Sun (Duan & Only)

#### Costumes:

Taniwha (see video)  
Pyjamas for main character students  
Taniwha masks (see video for dance groups)  
Plain black clothes for tamariki moving the taniwha and the river  
Sheep masks for all Hipi (see video)  
Hipi 1-10 should be numbered

#### Props:

River (e.g. a long piece of shiny blue fabric. This can be held by tamariki at both ends and shaken so that it seems to move.)  
A storybook  
A midnight snack

#### Sound effects:

A soft whistling, like the wind  
A spooky kōauau (flute) or similar  
A rattle  
A fast drumbeat

## **TANIWHA, TANIWHA!**

A Hī Hā Production

### **CHARACTERS:**

**Dance Groups:** Hipi (sheep); Taniwha 1, 2,3,4 and 5

(Dance Groups also perform poems and actions marked in the script by ALL from the side of the stage.)

**Main Characters:** Teachers: Mr T, Miss McDonald; Koroua (old man); Kuia (old lady); Students: Aroha, Jamie, JP, Rāwiri

**Hipi (sheep) 1-10**

**Taniwha:** as many students as you need to fit your Taniwha!

**SETTING:** School camp at Taniwha Valley, night

*[Darkness. A spooky kōauau]*

**ALL:** Beware the dreaded taniwha a-lurking in his lair,  
The monster teeth! The monster jaws!  
The monster tail! The monster claws!  
Do not go near! Or: snicker-snack!  
You're never, ever coming back.

*[Lights up. Enter TEACHERS and STUDENTS]*

**MR T:** Haere mai! Haere mai, tamariki mā! Time for bed!

**JP:** Awww Mr T! We can't go to bed yet! It's the first night of school camp!

**JAMIE:** Yeah, no one ever sleeps the first night of school camp! We stay up and eat midnight snacks!

**MISS MCDONALD:** Well, sleep sounds good to me, tamariki mā! Kei te ngenge ahau. I'm tired!

**AROHA:** But Miss McDonald, it's dark. Really, really dark.

**RĀWIRI:** Don't worry, Aroha! I'll look after you. *[Shows his muscles.]*

***[ALL giggle.]***

**MISS MCDONALD:** You all need your sleep. It's a big day tomorrow. There's lots to do in Taniwha Valley!

**AROHA:** Miss McDonald, why is it called Taniwha Valley?

**MISS MCDONALD:** Oh, just some old story about a taniwha.

***[A soft whistling]***

**MR T:** Oh, I know Taniwha Valley *looks* spooky. The mountains stretching high...

**ALL:** The mountains stretching high... ***[Action: stretching]***

**MR T:** The mist falling low...

**ALL:** The mist falling low... ***[Action: falling]***

**MR T:** The twisting, turning river...

**ALL:** The twisting, turning river... ***[Action: twisting and turning]***

**MR T:** Rattling rocks rolling...

**ALL:** Rattling rocks rolling... ***[Action: hands rolling]***

**MR T:** Trees bending in the breeze...

**ALL:** Trees bending in the breeze... ***[Action: bending]***

**MR T:** Ghostly footsteps running...

**ALL:** Ghostly footsteps running... ***[Action: stamping]***

**MR T:** Shadows shrinking and growing...

**ALL:** Shadows shrinking and growing... ***[Action: shrinking and growing]***

**MR T:** ...But you don't want to listen to that old story. There's no such thing as a taniwha.

**MISS MCDONALD:** Night night!

**MR T:** Pō marie.

*[STUDENTS groan, but settle down and try to sleep. TEACHERS exit. A pause.]*

**ALL [calling]:** Morepork! Morepork!

**AROHA:** Ahhhh! The taniwha!

**JP:** Keep your hair on, it's just a ruru!

**RĀWIRI:** Don't be scared, Aroha, I'll look after you. *[Shows his muscles.]*

*[ALL giggle. They settle down again. A pause.]*

**JAMIE:** Can I open my midnight snacks yet?

**STUDENTS:** Not now, Jamie.

**RĀWIRI:** Hey, let's count sheep! Counting sheep always makes me sleepy.

*[Enter HIPI 1-10]*

**HIPI:** Baaaaa!

**JP:** Wait, what? Are those actually sheep?

**RĀWIRI:** They're imaginary.

**JP:** Weird!

*[Hipi 1-10 run across stage one by one while ALL count.]*

**HIPI 1:** Baaaaa!

**ALL:** Tahi

**HIPI 2:** Baaaaa!

**ALL:** Rua

**HIPI 3:** Baaaaa!

**ALL:** Toru

**HIPI 4:** Baaaaa!

**ALL:** Whā

**HIPI 5:** Baaaaa!

**ALL:** Rima

**HIPI 6:** Baaaaa!

**ALL:** Ono

**HIPI 7:** Baaaaa!

**ALL:** Whitu

**HIPI 8:** Baaaaa!

**ALL:** Waru

**HIPI 9:** Baaaaa!

**ALL:** Iwa

**HIPI 10:** Baaaaa!

**ALL:** Tekau

**JP, AROHA, JAMIE:** We're still awake, Rāwiri!

**RĀWIRI:** Okay, let's try counting them backwards.

**JP:** Do we have to? It's really boring.

**RĀWIRI:** That's the point, JP.

**JP:** Weird!

*[HIPI 10-1 run backwards across stage one by one, while ALL count.]*

**HIPI 10:** Baaaaa!

**ALL:** Tekau

**HIPI 9:** Baaaaa!

**ALL:** Iwa

**HIPI 8:** Baaaaa!

**ALL:** Waru

**HIPI 7:** Baaaaa!

**ALL:** Whitu

**HIPI 6:** Baaaaa!

**ALL:** Ono

**HIPI 5:** Baaaaa!

**ALL:** Rima

**HIPI 4:** Baaaaa!

**ALL:** Whā

**HIPI 3:** Baaaaa!

**ALL:** Toru

**HIPI 2:** Baaaaa!

**ALL:** Rua

**HIPI 1:** Baaaaa!

**ALL:** Tahi

**JP, AROHA, JAMIE:** We're still awake, Rāwiri!

**JP:** The sheep are imaginary, right? So we can make them do whatever we want, right? Can we make them dance?

**RĀWIRI:** Um, I guess.

**JP:** Pāia! Pāia! Yaaaahhh!

*[Enter Hipi Group. Dance: Tahi Rua Toru Whā]*

**JP:** Thanks, Hipi! Haere rā!

**HIPI:** E noho rā!

**JP:** Oh. We're still awake.

**JAMIE:** Can I open my midnight snacks yet?

**STUDENTS:** Not now, Jamie.

**JAMIE:** We need a bedtime story.

**STUDENTS:** Miss McDonald! Mr T! We need a bedtime story! Pleeeeease!

*[Enter TEACHERS]*

**To be continued...**