



Affiliated with the national Young Audiences
Arts for Learning network



Content Standards

Social Studies

Describe the political and social characteristics of early civilizations and their enduring impact on later civilizations.

Compare cultural practices, products and perspectives of past civilizations in order to understand commonality and diversity of cultures.

Regions can be determined, classified and compared using various criteria (e.g., landform, climate, population, cultural, or economic).

Dance

Recognize that people of various cultures value and enjoy dancing, making dances and reflecting on dances as distinct human endeavors.

Music

Recognize the use of music for various purposes by performers and listeners in a variety of cultures.

Recognize, identify and demonstrate form in world music (e.g., Western and non-Western) and popular music.

African Drumming and Dance

Educator Guide

Enriching the lives of children and promoting creative learning by uniting arts and education

About the Program



With teaching artist **Sogbety Diomande** leading the journey, students experience the traditional rhythms, dances, songs and instruments of Africa. Through exploration and experimentation with African percussion and rhythms, students practice self-control, collaboration and composition. Students learn the three basic sounds of the African djembe drum.

Through discussion and demonstrations, students acquire an appreciation and understanding of African culture. They learn to perform basic dance movements as they explore traditional music and make connections between dance, drumming and the history and culture of Africa.

Objectives

1. **Define** the concepts of rhythm, tradition and culture.
2. **Identify** the connections between movement and music.
3. **Understand** how music and dance can be used as artistic communication.
4. **Experience** music and dance from a different culture.

Before the Program

Guide a classroom discussion on why and how humans of all cultures around the world compose dance and music.

How do humans use dance and music to communicate ideas and emotions?

Why have these art forms survived for so long throughout history?

View W. African Countries on Google Earth.

After the Program

Ask students to compare similarities between the traditional dances and music of Africa to the kinds of contemporary dance moves and music they see and hear today.

How are they similar? How are they different?

Encourage students to use modern dance moves to choreograph a dance that tells a story.

Vocabulary

Culture: The behaviors, beliefs and characteristics of a particular social, ethnic or age group

Rhythm: A strong, regular repeated pattern of movement or sound

Tradition: The handing down of statements, beliefs, customs and information from generation to generation, especially by word of mouth or by practice.

About Sogbety Diomande

Sogbety Diomande, a native of the Ivory Coast in West Africa, is a professional drummer and dancer who has been performing since he was a child. He has been a member of Ballet National de Cote d'Ivoire, Kotchegna Dance Company and has been featured with many troupes in NYC and around the US. Sogbety started his own troupe in 2005. His troupe performs at festivals and in colleges throughout the US. He spends most of his time working as a solo artist doing drum workshops, assemblies and lectures in schools, universities, community centers and juvenile correctional facilities. Sogbety is happy to share his culture with school groups all over Ohio so students can get a glimpse of life in a different land.

Resources

Great Performances: Free to Dance

www.pbs.org/wnet/freetodance/index.html

ArtsEdge Videos

www.youtube.com/user/ArtsEdge



About the Center for Arts-Inspired Learning

Through a balance of demonstration and audience participation, the Center for Arts-Inspired Learning teaching artist performances and workshops introduce students to an art form, support various curricular areas, and inject excitement and wonder into the school day.

