

AROUND THE WORLD IN 8 DAYS

LESSON PLANS

CLASS NOTES®

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AMENDMENT'S ARTS AND CULTURAL HERITAGE FUND.



AROUND THE WORLD IN 8 DAYS

LESSON/ACTIVITY PLAN

OBJECTIVE

1. Students will identify characteristics of music from eight different cultures.

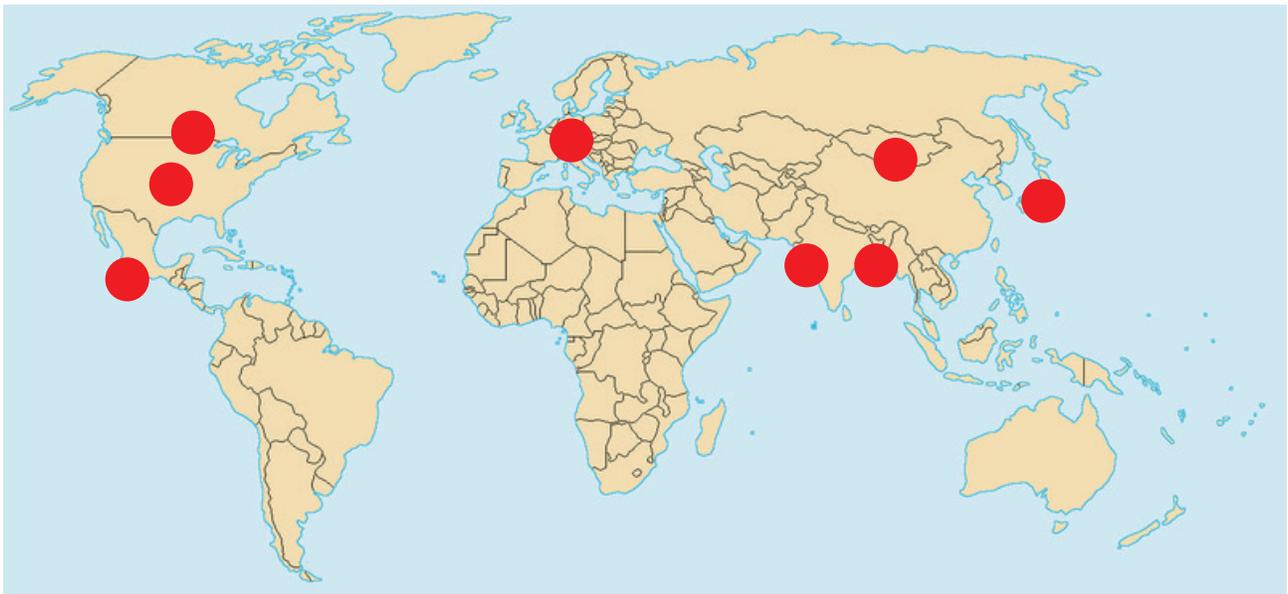
ACTIVITIES

1. Start with a blank world map like the one below. Here's a [link](#) to one in the public domain. Explain that you will visit eight different locations over eight class periods. During each "visit," you will learn about a particular style of music that originated in that area.



2. Select any eight locations/styles on the map that you are interested in exploring with your students. The remainder of this lesson plan is an example that you may feel free to use or modify to suit your needs. The styles, with corresponding location of origin, are:

- › Traditional Ojibwe singing—Minnesota/the Dakotas/Canada
- › Ragtime—St. Louis, MO
- › Mariachi—Mexico
- › Alpine yodeling—Switzerland/Austria
- › Raga—India
- › Tuvan throat singing—Mongolia
- › Kwv Thxijaj—Southeast



3. Mark the locations on the map (see above).

4. When visiting a country, start by listening and/or watching some music. Fill out a fact sheet so that students learn fundamental characteristics of each style of music. You may choose to present the material to students or have them do research on their own. Use a worksheet or grid for processing information. Here's a sample template:

| | |
|--------------------|--|
| GENRE/STYLE | |
| LOCATION OF ORIGIN | |
| BASIC DESCRIPTION | |
| FACT #1 | |
| FACT #2 | |
| FACT #3 | |
| EXAMPLE/MORE INFO | |

General categories, such as FACT #1, are more universally applicable across a wide variety of genres. You may decide to be more specific, with categories like: “characteristic instrumentation,” or “common melodic features.” Point out that the place of origin might be very specific, or it might be a broader region. If students are conducting the research themselves, include a column for them to cite their sources or list web links. Below are complete grids for the eight kinds of music referenced above.

| | |
|--------------------|---|
| GENRE/STYLE | Traditional Ojibwe-Anishinaabe music |
| LOCATION OF ORIGIN | Parts of Minnesota and Canada, surrounding Lake Superior |
| BASIC DESCRIPTION | Songs from the Ojibwe-Anishinaabe. This music is often vocal and uses instruments such as rattles, shakers and drums. |
| FACT #1 | The number four is an important element in Ojibwe-Anishinaabe music and culture, representing balance. |
| FACT #2 | Music is used for many things in Ojibwe-Anishinaabe culture: teaching, celebration and traditional ceremonies. |
| FACT #3 | You should ask permission to perform a song someone else has written. |
| EXAMPLE/MORE INFO | http://www.classicalmpr.org/story/2014/11/19/meet-classnotes-artist-lyz-jaakola |

| | |
|--------------------|--|
| GENRE/STYLE | Ragtime |
| LOCATION OF ORIGIN | St. Louis, MO, USA |
| BASIC DESCRIPTION | From dictionary.com: Music characterized by a syncopated melodic line and regularly accented accompaniment, evolved by black American musicians in the 1890s and played especially on the piano. |
| FACT #1 | Was most popular during the early years of the 20th century. |
| FACT #2 | Scott Joplin was a famous ragtime composer. |
| FACT #3 | Gets its name from its “ragged”, or syncopated, rhythms. |
| EXAMPLE/MORE INFO | https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6j5JCw5J-7U |

| | |
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| GENRE/STYLE | Mariachi |
| LOCATION OF ORIGIN | Mexico |
| BASIC DESCRIPTION | Folk music from Mexico. There are variations in the music depending on the precise region of origin within Mexico. |
| FACT #1 | Instrumentation usually includes violin and guitar and sometimes trumpet. |
| FACT #2 | Some Mariachi music uses <i>falsetto</i> vocals. |
| FACT #3 | Mariachi music is often used in celebrations or special events, like weddings, holidays or funerals. |
| EXAMPLE/MORE INFO | Watch Classical MPR's Class Notes Video about Mexican music . And look at the associated curriculum . |

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|--------------------|---|
| GENRE/STYLE | Alpine yodeling |
| LOCATION OF ORIGIN | Switzerland, Austria |
| BASIC DESCRIPTION | Form of singing developed in rural areas of the Alps. |
| FACT #1 | Involves fast changes between high and low pitches. |
| FACT #2 | Singer must switch register, which is a practiced skill. |
| FACT #3 | Was originally developed as a form of communicating over long distances. |
| EXAMPLE/MORE INFO | https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GDzIJ3k6whY |

| | |
|--------------------|---|
| GENRE/STYLE | Raga |
| LOCATION OF ORIGIN | India |
| BASIC DESCRIPTION | A traditional melodic pattern that is a fundamental part of Indian classical music. |
| FACT #1 | Uses a series of five to nine notes as a basis for composition, then improvisation. |
| FACT #2 | Specific ragas can be associated with certain times of day or seasons. |
| FACT #3 | There are regional difference between ragas and raga interpretation. |
| EXAMPLE/MORE INFO | This clip shows a number of traditional Indian instruments. |

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| GENRE/STYLE | Tuvan throat singing |
| LOCATION OF ORIGIN | Mongolia, Siberia, Russia, Tuva |
| BASIC DESCRIPTION | A style of singing in which the singer produces two pitches at the same time, thus creating harmony. |
| FACT #1 | Has origins in attempting to mimic or imitate sounds of nature. |
| FACT #2 | The singer produces a fundamental pitch and then a particular <i>overtone</i> , part of the <i>harmonic</i> series. |
| FACT #3 | There are a number of different ways of categorizing the different variations of Tuvan throat singing. |
| EXAMPLE/MORE INFO | https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qx8hrhBZJ98 |

| | |
|--------------------|--|
| GENRE/STYLE | Kwv Thxaj (pronounced “k-ou ts-ee-ah”) |
| LOCATION OF ORIGIN | Southeast Asia, including Laos, Thailand, Vietnam, parts of China |
| BASIC DESCRIPTION | Vocal folk music of the Hmong people. |
| FACT #1 | Sung by both men and women of all ages. |
| FACT #2 | This music is for voice only. The vocal quality is raw, powerful, and loud. |
| FACT #3 | The language in these songs is referred to as “paj lug,” or “flowery language.” It is often used for courting. |
| EXAMPLE/MORE INFO | https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=16oDy9e8_s8 |

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| GENRE/STYLE | Taiko |
| LOCATION OF ORIGIN | Japan |
| BASIC DESCRIPTION | Percussion-based music usually played in an ensemble using a variety of instruments. |
| FACT #1 | Has ancient origins. |
| FACT #2 | Has been used for many purposes, including communication, use in military activities, and use for theatrical accompaniment. |
| FACT #3 | Styles vary by region. |
| EXAMPLE/MORE INFO | https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C7HL5wYqAbU |

LEARNING CHECKLIST

- I can describe, compare and contrast cultural uses of music from different periods and places.
- I can identify and describe elements that make contrasting musical selections different from each other.
- I can identify the characteristics of a variety of genres and musical styles.