

Discover the Arab World through Music & Dance

Sample Multimedia & Interactive Lesson Plan

Introduction

We can learn about a people from their language (**Marhaba** ‘hello’, **Marhabtain** “two hellos”). We can learn from their arts—the Arab people have a rich tradition in music and dance (22 countries, traditions vary from country to country and within a country, can only visit a few today).

Background: Who are the Arabs?

- Where do Arabs live? (map)
- Arabic language (teach a few Arabic words, teach English words with Arabic origin)
- Religions (Muslims, Christians, Jews)
- Culture and Customs (family ties, veiling, modesty, hospitality)

Music: What makes Arabic music different from Western music?

- Use videos and music samples to demonstrate:
 - Quarter tones
 - Improvisation
 - Instruments
- Rhythms - Drums, the heartbeat of the music
 - Different sounds make the rhythms: use of Dum & Tec
 - Same time signature, but different rhythms
 - 4/4: Balabi, Sa’idi, Maksoum, Wahada
 - 2/4: Malfouf, Ayub,
 - Clap and move to different rhythms.

Dances from Arab World: Celebrating life events!

- Video presentation of different regional folk dances
 - Variety within and between countries
 - Men’s vs. Women’s dances
- Perform selected dances
- Student Participation
 - Teach zagareet and other forms of audience participation
 - Teach simple movements
 - Teach Egyptian cane
 - Teach Khaliji (Saudi Arabia)
 - Debke (Lebanon)

Q&A / Review

Follow up materials and resources for students & teachers are available on request.