

Study Guide

World Music in the Schools • Living Room Learning: World Music & Dance

Brazilian Music & Rhythm

Teaching Artist: Stefanie Schmitz • [Stefanie's Artist Profile](#)

Video link: <https://youtu.be/XLPXRFuIONM>

Vamola! ***Brazilian Music & Rhythm*** will take you on a journey of song, dance, rhythm, and culture from Brazil. In this hands-on assembly students will sing in Portuguese, clap and tap along to infectious Brazilian rhythms, and take a close look into the exciting and complex culture of Brazil.

Teaching Artist **Stefanie Schmitz** aims to foster empowerment, self-expression, creativity, reflection, and connection through the introduction of basic musicianship, rhythm exploration, and cultural awareness in the context of Brazilian rhythm, song, and dance.

Learning Objectives: Students will . . .

- Identify the language of Brazil and speak a basic greeting in Portuguese
- Sing the chorus to a song in Portuguese
- Clap a popular samba rhythm pattern
- Reflect on the role of music in Brazilian culture and in their own lives

Alignment with **California Arts Standards for Public Schools:**

- **Music:** .MU:Cn11: Relate artistic ideas and works with societal, cultural, and historical context to deepen understanding

Preliminary Activities

- Geography
 - You can find an interactive map of Brazil at the link below:
<https://www.roughguides.com/maps/south-america/brazil/>
 - Brazil is the largest country in South America, and the fifth largest in the world. The equator runs through it.
 - Rio de Janeiro is a famous city that you may have heard of (like in the movie *Rio*).
 - Brasilia is the capital of Brazil, not Rio de Janeiro.
 - Brazil consists of states, like the USA.
 - The Amazon river is the largest in the world, and the Amazon rainforest is the largest in the world.

- History
 - Similar to Americans, most Brazilians are descendants of indigenous people, European settlers, and/or African slaves.
 - Check out this link with interesting facts about the Brazilian flag:
<https://goo.gl/nFsoaG>
 - Culture
 - Soccer is a popular sport in Brazil (called *futebol* in Portuguese).
 - Brazil has won the soccer world cup more often than any other country.
 - Brazil hosted the Summer Olympics in 2016.
 - Music is a part of daily Brazilian life.
 - Language/vocabulary
 - Portuguese is the national language of Brazil.
 - Portuguese is also the national language of nine other countries around the world.
 - Portuguese is a Romance language, like Spanish, French, Italian, and Romanian.
 - Tradition
 - Most Brazilian music is secular (non-religious), but developed from religious music.
 - Carnival is a major holiday that is celebrated every year, featuring big parades with drumming, dancing, and costumes.
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Follow-Up Activities

Ask your students to . . .

- Share with a family member or friend one thing you learned and one thing you liked.
- Look for items you can use around your own house to make your own rhythms.
- Practice your new Portuguese vocabulary words with a family member or friend.
 - Bom dia (Hello)
 - Tudo bem? (How are you?)
- Explain the importance of samba to the people of Brazil.
- Explain the role of music in American culture.
- Give examples of music in your life.
- How does music make you feel?
- Discuss the role music has in expressing your identity (family, culture, gender, hobbies, etc).
- What more would you like to learn about Brazil?