

## 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://video.link/w/Oemkb>

Vamola! ***Brazilian Music & Rhythm*** will take you on a journey of song, dance, rhythm, and culture from Brazil. In this hands-on lesson 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

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### 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?