

Lesson plan

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Topic: United in Diversity; Cultural Heritage; Music
Lesson title:
Sharing our musical heritage

Lesson brief description
Through this project, we will try to share our musical cultural heritage. Producing traditional songs and dances from their own country and the other countries involved in the Project. Pupils improve their skills in their use of English and learn to cooperate with others in order to teach and learn about them and their musical traditions.
This lesson is planned focusing on celebrating Europe's day singing "Ode to Joy" in many languages, related to many languages.

Time (Lesson duration):
3 hours

Methodology: (group, individual, peer assessment, brainstorming, etc...)
brainstorming, group, peer tutoring

Materials needed:
PC, digital screen, sound equipment, printed lyrics of "Ode to Joy" in various languages, cultural instruments (optional), markers, and chart paper.

Students' age:
9-14

Aims/Goals or SWBATs (Students will be able to.....)

By the end of this lesson, students will be able to:

- **Cultural Understanding:** Demonstrate an appreciation for the cultural diversity of Europe, particularly through music and language.

- **Multilingual Skills:** Sing “Ode to Joy” in multiple European languages, reflecting the linguistic diversity of the continent.
- **Collaboration:** Work in groups to research, prepare, and present traditional music and dances from different European countries.
- **Language Proficiency:** Use English as a medium for communication while collaborating with peers from various backgrounds.
- **Critical Thinking:** Reflect on the importance of music in fostering unity and understanding, while avoiding stereotypes and promoting intercultural dialogue.

Lead-in *What’s going to happen here to introduce your students to the topic?* Time 15 minutes

Activity:

Begin with a discussion about Europe’s Day and the role of music in bringing people together. Show a video clip of “Ode to Joy” being performed in multiple languages, explaining its importance as Europe’s anthem.

Objective: Introduce the students to the theme of the lesson – celebrating Europe’s diversity through music and language.

Methodology: Brainstorming, group discussion.

What key-concepts could teachers focus on? What needs to be pre-taught?

Key Concepts to Focus On:

- **Cultural Heritage:** The musical traditions that define various European cultures.
- **Diversity and Unity:** How different languages, traditions, and histories contribute to a collective European identity.
- **Music as a Universal Language:** How music can transcend linguistic barriers and unite people.
- **Intercultural Communication:** The role of English in bridging cultural divides within Europe.

Pre-teaching Needs:

Basic introduction to Europe’s cultural diversity.

Basic understanding of "Ode to Joy" as both a musical piece and its significance in European culture.

Familiarization with European languages and the alphabetic differences to aid in pronunciation of foreign languages.

List of activities with brief description of each one and time for each one:

Cultural Exploration (30 minutes)

Activity:

Divide the class into small groups. Assign each group a European country to research briefly, focusing on the country's traditional music and dances. Provide access to digital resources for research (videos, music clips, articles).

Objective: Help students explore the diversity of European music and dance traditions.

Methodology: Group work, peer tutoring, ICT tools.

Learning the Song "Ode to Joy" (40 minutes)

Activity:

Teach the students the chorus of "Ode to Joy" in one language (e.g., German, since it's originally composed in German). Discuss the significance of the anthem and the concept of unity through the song.

Objective: Familiarize students with the musical and linguistic elements of the anthem.

Methodology: Singing, language learning through music, collaborative learning.

Singing "Ode to Joy" in Multiple Languages (40 minutes)

Activity:

Teach the song in different languages (e.g., English, French, Spanish, Italian, etc.). Split the class into sections, each responsible for a different language version.

Objective: Encourage multilingual singing and promote an appreciation of language diversity.

Methodology: Group work, singing, peer support.

Traditional Music and Dance Presentations (45 minutes)

Activity:

Each group presents a traditional song or dance from the country they researched earlier. They should introduce the song, explain its cultural context, and perform it for the class.

Objective: Share and appreciate the different cultural traditions represented in the class.

Methodology: Group presentations, performance-based assessment, peer feedback.

Reflection and Discussion (30 minutes)

Activity:

Lead a class discussion about the importance of cultural diversity, using music as a lens. Ask students to reflect on what they learned about different European cultures, how they felt working with others from different backgrounds, and the role of music in fostering unity.

Objective: Encourage students to reflect on the values of diversity, inclusivity, and collaboration.

Methodology: Group discussion, individual reflection.

What are other follow up (or homework) activities that can be included?

Research Assignment: Ask students to research another European country's traditional music and dance, and prepare a short report on their findings to share in the next lesson.

Performance Practice: Encourage students to practice the languages and lyrics of “Ode to Joy” at home to improve fluency and pronunciation for a final group performance at the end of the unit.

What methodology / activities are used for assessment?

Assessment Methods:

- **Peer Feedback:** After each presentation, students will provide constructive feedback to their peers, fostering a collaborative and supportive learning environment.
- **Teacher Observation:** Observe student participation during the discussions, singing activities, and presentations to assess their understanding and engagement with the topic.
- **Self-Reflection:** After the class, ask students to write a brief reflection on what they learned about European music and culture, and how their perceptions of cultural diversity have changed.
- **Language Skills Assessment:** Evaluate the students’ pronunciation and ability to participate in the multilingual singing of “Ode to Joy.”

Other thoughts about this lesson plan:

Cultural Sensitivity: It is important to approach this lesson with cultural sensitivity, ensuring that students appreciate the value of all cultures represented in the class. Encourage an open-minded and respectful approach to each country’s traditions.

Inclusion: Some students may have personal connections to the musical or dance traditions being explored. Encouraging them to share their experiences can enrich the learning environment.