

LESSON PLAN

Celebration and Samba

Grades 3-5

Objectives:

Students will:

- describe carnival and Mardi Gras.
- explain the meaning of frevo and try some frevo dance steps.
- develop a short dance pattern.
- create their personal holiday.
- explain why holidays or celebrations are important.

GLCEs

W.PS.04.01 Show originality in oral, written, and/or visual narrative messages (e.g., natural language, expressed sentiment, original ideas).

Materials:

Student information Sheet: Celebrations in Northeast Brazil, Grades 3-5

Pencil and paper

Sheet of colored paper

Digital links on frevo

Words to Know:

Carnival	pre-Lenten celebration before Ash Wednesday in Brazil
Percussive music	sounds made by instruments being struck
Frevo	popular dance and music in the state of Pernambuco
Mardi Gras	pre-Lenten celebration before Ash Wednesday in the U.S.

Introduction:

1. Read information on the Student Information Sheet: Celebrations in Northeast Brazil, Grades 3-5.
2. Ask Students: When do Carnival and Mardi Gras take place?
3. What are some of the festivities in the parade during Mardi Gras or Carnival?
4. When is the music and dance called frevo often performed?
5. What do the dancers carry?

Activity 1:

1. View the digital file link: Frevo em Olinda Pitombeira Joven-2 and Olinda Dança de Frevo Odeie Monticelli.
2. Ask students, in groups of three, to try to do some steps in frevo.
3. Students may also wish to create their own dance movements!

Activity 2:

1. Ask students to think about creating and celebrating a special day for themselves. (Tell them not to include their birthday a national holiday or a holiday for a special person)
2. On the board, write: My Pet and I Day, My Healthy Food Day or collect _____ Day. Get other suggestions from the class.
3. Tell students to write a response to each of the following:
 - Give the celebration a name.
 - Make a sign with the holiday's name, day and date on it. Let everyone know about it.
 - Describe how it will be celebrated.
 - What special activities, decorations, foods, or music will you have?
 - Why is this day important to you?

Assessment/Reflection:

Describe Carnival and Mardi Gras. Would you like to go to one?
 Could you do some of the acrobatic moves of the frevo dancers?
 Did you enjoy your special holiday? What went well? What would you do differently?

Extended Activity;

On cardboard, cut out a mask form to decorate with sequins, feathers, shapes from construction paper and found objects. Attach a straw or unsharpened pencil and you're ready for Mardi Gras!