

Carnival Parade

Students will each decorate a sheet of construction paper with people, dancers and musicians of the Carnival parade in Brazil.

Rationale: Students will Use their fingerprints to make fingerprint people and add outrageous costumes. The fingerprint people will be multicolored to represent the extreme multiculturalism of Brazil. The crazy costumes will be representative of the costumes and extravagances of the Carnival parade. The joy and happy spirit of the Brazilian people will be reflected in the visual images. The students will work on this parade in class when they've finished with other tasks, while listening to Carnival music and samba music.

Objectives.

Students will learn to play and hear music forms. Students will learn to play and hear various musical timbres. Students will learn of music from other cultures. Students will compare the music of their own culture with the music of other cultures. Students will learn the place of music in history. Students will work cooperatively. Students will learn independently. Students will exercise interpersonal skills. Students will exercise the skills of personal craftsmanship. Students will create visual representations of music and culture. Students will reflect on the personal and emotional impact of the music, its aesthetic qualities. Students will show leadership. Students will participate in class discussions of music and culture. Students will share materials and help one another. Students will take pride in personal accomplishment. Student will seek help from others.

Materials

- ▣ Yellow and Green construction paper, 11" by 14"
- ▣ Markers, pens, feathers, glitter, sequins and other sparklies and colorful papers to create costumes.
- ▣ Thin wooden skewers (like you use in the kitchen for shish-kabob.)
- ▣ Summary paragraph for the beginning and end of the parade display.

Procedure.

1. Distribute yellow and green construction paper to each of the students.
2. Fold over one inch of both long edges of the paper.

3. Fold over two inches on both short edges of paper.
4. Along the short edges of each paper measure and mark with a pencil a short dash every inch down the side, starting from the top.
5. Cut a tiny triangle centered on each mark on both sides of the paper.
6. Students should use washable ink or marker and ink up a finger. Place fingerprints all around the finished side of the paper. (The side of the paper where the folds do not show.) Use several different colors. Alternatively, each child can have a different color finger and place their fingerprints on the papers of each student.
7. Add facial features and limbs to each fingerprint and then add costumes, feathers, sequins and instruments using markers and supplies and glue.
8. When the glue is dry, put two pages face to face and Use the wooden skewer to connect the hinges on each edge of the paper. Eventually connect all of the pages together in one long accordion-like parade.
9. Put the project summary on a blank page at the front and another at the end.

special notes

This project will be very effective for the student who learns well with tactile stimulation. It will also be successful for students who are visually and spatially talented. They will be able to work with their hands and still listen to the music of Brazil.

Assessment

Students will complete a page for the parade using at least two different colored people and putting in a dancer, a musician, and a crazy costume.

A Carnival Parade

Carnival originated with ancient Greek festivals in honor of Dionysis. It was later modified by the Roman Catholic Church as a festival leading up to Ash Wednesday. Carnival quickly evolved into the massive celebration of indulgences we see today. This is probably not what the Roman Catholic Church had in mind.

Similar to the Mardi Gras of New Orleans, the week before Ash Wednesday, there is a street celebration in almost every city in Brazil. The Carnival in Rio de Janeiro and the one in Salvador de Bahia are the most famous. Samba schools, which are neighborhood music organizations, rehearse all year long to prepare drumming and dancing groups. These ensembles are as big as two or three hundred people, they perform in the parades and as part of the productions in the large arenas. Brazil is a country populated by immigrants from all over the world, but they all join together with fancy costumes and loud music to celebrate Brazil's most famous festival.

We have recreated the Carnival parade here with every imaginable color of person, and craziness of costume. Students each created a page of the parade with their own fingerprints and decorated them with costumes while listening to the music of the Carnival from Brazil.