

## Exploring the Raga and Tala

Students will improvise with melody, the Indian raga and combine it with the harmonic drone and use specific tala.

Rationale: Much of Indian music is improvised. But within very specific guidelines. This will give the students a chance to create authentic original compositions in the South Indian style.

### Objectives

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Students will learn to play and hear melody. Students will learn to play and hear harmony. Students will learn to play and hear rhythms. Students will learn to play and hear music forms. Students will learn to play and hear various musical timbres. Students will improvise melodies. Students will learn manipulate traditional and innovative forms of music. Students will learn manipulate timbres of music. Students will perform on instruments alone and with others. Students will create original compositions. 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 learn kinesthetically. Students will exercise interpersonal skills. 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 work as a community to create music. Students will share materials and help one another. Students will take pride in personal

### Materials

Handmade instruments and drums  
Vina  
Bamboo flute  
Keyboards  
Drone  
Gourd oboe  
India CD

<b>accomplishment</b> <b>Student will seek help from others.</b>	
<p>Procedure.</p> <p>Vocabulary drone, raga tala and discussion of the Indian concepts.</p> <p>Drone ...is a constant unending note or notes in the background of a song</p> <p>Raga .... Is a specific set of melody notes which can be used in a song, and no others.</p> <p>Tala ..... Is a specific rhythm combination that can be used with the tala</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Play the tala by clapping. Stomping. Play it on drums. Play it on something in the room.</li> <li>2. Put on a recording of an Indian song (The Best Songs of India, Ever. CD) and have the kids play along with the recording.</li> <li>3. When the tala is permanently engrained in their heads, give them a melodi instrument and let them play the rhythm with only one tone.</li> <li>4. Let them play the tala with any combination of two tones. Now it will get varied, and the kids will no longer be able to play together, hae them use keyboards and headphones.</li> <li>5. Gadually increase the number of tones availableto them unti they are working with a full raga.</li> <li>6. Some students will play the drone ( three students is best) tuned to the right pitch. Other students will play either the steady beat quietly as a foundation sound, or they will be assigned to play the tala on the drums.</li> <li>7. Each student will get a chance to improvise the melodic raga on the bamboo flute or the vina.</li> </ol>	
<p>For performance:  Students should play into the microphone on their turn.</p>	<p>special notes</p>

Assessment; Students will participate in performing the rhythms.  
Students will perform for an audience.