

CARIBBEAN SOUL



YEAR 7 AND 8 – CURRICULUM GUIDES

AUSTRALIAN CURRICULUM

- General Capability: Intercultural Understanding.
- Intercultural understanding develops students' abilities to communicate and empathise with others and to analyse intercultural experiences critically.

INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE

- MYP Performing Arts key and related concepts genre and structure.

OBJECTIVE

To learn about Caribbean music.

RESOURCES

Teacher laptop linked to display screen.

BACKGROUND - 5 min

From laidback melodies to exciting dance beats, these are the musical sounds of the Caribbean. Styles such as soca, calypso and reggae music are played on the national instrument the steel drums. Definitions of each dance style are below:

- **Soca** music is a genre of music defined by Lord Shorty, its inventor, as the Soul of Calypso, African and East Indian rhythms.
- **Calypso** is a style of Afro-Caribbean music that originated in Trinidad and Tobago during the early to the mid-19th century and spread to the rest of the Caribbean Antilles and Venezuela by the mid-20th century. Its rhythms can be traced back to West African Kaiso and the arrival of French planters and their slaves from the French Antilles in the 18th century.
- **Reggae** is a music genre that originated in Jamaica in the late 1960s. The term also denotes the modern popular music of Jamaica. It is instantly recognizable from the counterpoint between the bass and drum downbeat and the offbeat rhythm section.

REGGAE STYLE: OFFBEAT/DOWNBEAT ACTIVITY - 15 min

- Divide the class into two halves: drum beat, and offbeat
- Display the table below
- Ask the groups to perform their part on the beats listed in the table, repeat 4 times
- Swap groups and repeat activity

Beats	Drum Beat Group 1	Offbeat Group 2
1	Clap	
2		Click
3	Clap	
4		Click

BLUEBEAT VIDEO - 5 Min

Watch the video below, a performance at BlueBeat 2013 featuring Errol Renaud. Students will be able to detect the reggae beat. Also listen for the call and response between singer and saxophone, and the rap style section later in the song.

[BlueBeat 2013](#)