

CLASSICAL INDIAN DANCE



YEAR 3 - 6 MUSIC – 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

- When experiencing arts, we make connections between different cultures, places and times.
- PYP The Arts scope and sequence p18.

OBJECTIVE

To learn about Classical Indian Dance.

RESOURCES

Teacher laptop and display screen with access to the internet.

BACKGROUND - 5 min

The culture of ancient India is still practiced to this day. The sounds of classical instruments and Sanskrit chants show some symbolic gestures and movements. To find out more about the six classical dances of India, look at this Britannica entry:

<https://www.britannica.com/list/6-classical-dances-of-india>

WATCH, AND LISTEN - 10 min

Click on the link below to see a traditional Indian dance filmed at Parramatta Park. "Guru Ashtakam" is a sacred hymn that depicts the significance of Guru Tatvam video:

[Guru Ashtakam |Bharatanatyam Dance|Song credit:Kuldeep M Pai|Dedicated-H.H.Jayapataka Swami GM](#)

Tabla Drum



Sitar



Students can listen for:

- The words "tatah kim" in the chorus, meaning "what next?"
- 5/8 time signature, 5 quavers to a bar of music
- Male and female singers sing together and separately

Students can see:

- Moves that describe lyrics
- Dancing rhythms that are complex, not just moving to the beat
- Dancing sometimes mirrors the rhythms exactly
- Prayer postures at the end

EXTENSION: - 20 Min

Watch the video below and pause a number of times to learn some traditional Indian dance steps and their meanings.

[How To Learn Bollywood Dance](#)