

# Learn About Carnival Celebration in Brazil

Target Audience: Grades 3-5

## RELATED CONTENT AREAS

World Geography & Cultures, Visual Art, Portuguese

## OVERVIEW

An interactive and interdisciplinary presentation on the famous Brazilian holiday of Carnival that takes place each year in February. This workshop focuses on the costumes, music, and dance that take place, as well as a brief historical overview of the origins of the celebrations and its geographic diversity.

## STANDARDS

3<sup>rd</sup> Grade World Geography and Cultures: 3.33 Identify on a map major countries of South America

3<sup>rd</sup> Grade World Geography and Cultures: 3.34 Identify major physical features of South America

5<sup>th</sup> Grade Visual Art: 4.1 Explore the relationship of art from different cultures, time, and places.

5<sup>th</sup> Grade Visual Art: 4.2 Examine and demonstrate how culture, history, and art influence each other.

Modern Languages Elementary K-5: 2.1 Demonstrate an understanding of the relationship between the practices and perspectives of the culture studied.

## OBJECTIVES

- Students will be able to recognize main characteristics and significance of the Brazilian holiday of Carnival, including types of celebrations, costumes, music, dance, and regional differences.
- Students will also be able to use basic Portuguese vocabulary to describe the holiday celebrations and draw comparisons to Carnival in New Orleans or other celebrations.

## VOCABULARY

festa	dançar	fantasia
samba	Quaresma	bloco
rua	música	

<b>TIME</b>	45 minutes	<b>MATERIALS</b>	Computer with projector, internet connection
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## PROCEDURE

### PRE-EVENT MATERIALS

Provide a preview to Brazil: where is it on the map, what language do they speak there, how many people live there, what do you know about Brazil? (Music, current events, soccer, etc.)

### WORKSHOP

1. Using the PowerPoint, present a map of South America and Brazil. Ask students if they know anything about the country (see driving questions listed below).
2. Introduce [Carnaval](#) and explain that it is an annual celebration before Lent in February. Review the regional differences (in [Salvador de Bahia](#) and [Rio de Janeiro](#)).
3. Show [images](#) of typical [costumes](#) and [street celebrations](#).
4. Introduce Portuguese vocabulary and have students use the words to describe the images they see.
5. Show video clips of [samba dance](#) and music. Introduce instruments used in samba music. Ask students about what they hear and see (see questions below).
6. Ask students to make connections between this celebration with others that they may know about.
7. Students can also learn the basic steps of samba if classroom space permits.

### DRIVING QUESTIONS

- What do you know about Brazil? Where is it? What language is spoken there? Have any of you ever been or do you know someone who has?
- What instruments do you hear in the samba music? What does it sound like to you? How does it make you feel?
- Does Carnival remind you of any major holidays or events that you celebrate?

### HANDS-ON ACTIVITIES

If space permits in the classroom, students will learn the basic steps of samba dance to music.

### MODIFICATIONS

For shorter sessions or for lower grade levels, historical elements or hands-on activity can be omitted.

## EVALUATION

Students could listen to a story about New Orleans Carnival and make comparisons between what they learned about the celebrations and history in Brazil.