

Unit Guide

Teaching World Rivers Through Arts Integration

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This 13 day, 45 minute social studies unit for 3rd grade focuses on using the Performing Arts to close the gap between ESL and non-ESL learners as well as Special Education and Regular Education learners. This unit will be taught during the daily Social Studies block in an integrated setting. Students will read informational texts about the rivers of the world. They will understand that people use rivers for survival, exploration, commerce, and recreation. Students will learn concepts of the Performing Arts of Dance, Music, and Theater. Students will use these concepts to perform dances and theatrical performances to help further their understanding of abstract concepts such as irrigation and navigation. At the end of the unit, students will perform a poetry dance to the symphonic poem, the Moldau to show that they have understood both the social studies content and the elements of the appropriate art form.