

# WESTERN MUSIC

## Teacher's Guide: GRADE 7 - Lesson 9

### Festivals around the world

**Competency:** Competence in singing and in instrument playing

**Element:**

- Demonstrate technical and performance skills

**Performance criteria:**

- Clap and perform rhythms with accuracy and a steady tempo.
- Demonstrate dexterity and coordination during performance.
- Show confidence in both solo and ensemble performances.
- Maintain correct posture for improved sound quality.
- Interpret simple melodies or rhythms by ear.

**Purpose of Activities**

The aim of these activities is to help students explore and appreciate the rich variety of festivals celebrated around the world. By learning about the unique music and traditions associated with each festival, students will also discover and learn to perform the rhythms commonly heard during these festivals.

**Learning outcomes**

By the end of this lesson, students should be able to:

- Recognise and appreciate a variety of festivals celebrated globally.
- Identify and perform rhythmic patterns used in different festivals.

## Introduction

Festivals around the world are special occasions when people come together to celebrate important events, traditions, or beliefs. These can be religious, like Christmas or cultural, like Chinese New Year or Diwali. Festivals often involve music, dancing, food, decorations, costumes and quality time with family and friends. Such celebrations strengthen cultural identity and community bonds, bringing joy to people of all ages. Rhythm is essential in festivals as it sets the mood and drives the celebration.

## Listening Activity 1

Students will listen attentively to rhythms used in festivals. Educators should guide students to focus on key rhythmic elements such as **tempo**, **repetition** and **the types of instrument used**.

Suggested Youtube links

- **Brazil (Carnival)** – Samba rhythm



[Brazil Carnival: The Rio de Janeiro parade in 1 minute](#)

- **India (Diwali)**



[Rhythm n Beats – Diwali on the Square 2017](#)

- **Africa Oye Festival**



<https://www.youtube.com/shorts/8GvYTDt1y1A>

- **Chinese New Year**



[Chinese New Year 2012 - Lion Dance Drumming Demo at Wai Yee Hong](#)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Oi5SnkAHEHU>

## Activity 2

### Group Work

In groups, students will select one rhythmic pattern from Activity 1. With the support of the educator, each group will rehearse and perform their chosen rhythm using the available percussion instruments in front of them.

### Resources and materials

Audio visual equipment, percussion instruments

### Teaching trajectories/Implementation Guidelines

**Activity 1:** The educator helps students identify key rhythmic features like tempo, repetition, and instrument types, fostering their listening and analytical skills.

**Activity 2:** The educator supports each group in selecting and practising a rhythmic pattern from Activity 1 to prepare a short performance.

### Assessment

- Students will be assessed through their group presentation/performance based on accuracy, coordination, creativity, and confidence.