



Sahar El Khatib

Drum lesson

Lesson Title: Djembefola – Film Documentary

Grades: 1st to 8th grade
Projected time: 1 hour

Supplies needed:

Internet to watch Film Documentary called Djembefola on Youtube.

English: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7IZBZCCTI3w&t=2s>

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

Project Intro:

This lesson is going to involve both the parent and child together, as the film documentary has subtitles in English and Spanish. The lesson is about learning where the Djembe drum comes from, and to learn about master drummer Mamamdy Keita, where he comes from, and how does he play the Djembe.

Artist and/or Medium Reference:

Mamady Keita is an international artist, master djembe player that comes from Guinea, West Africa. In this Film Documentary you will learn about Mamady, and his journey back to his hometown that he was away from for 26 years.

Vocabulary:

Djembe: Hand Drum

Dunun: Stick Drums

Djembefola: Djembe player, or the person speaking/playing the drum.

Project steps:

Drumming Lesson with Mariposa Arts

Watch this Documentary Film to learn more about West African drumming, and to and answer the following questions:

Video Link with Spanish Subtitles: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xSKSvePtOUE>

YouTube Title: Djembefola (“el que hace hablar al djembe”) subtítulos en Español

Video Link with English Subtitles: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=egWeKSvQ4LA>

YouTube Title: Djembefola – a film by Laurent Chevalier (1991)

(Watch from 0:00 – 11:11 to answer these questions)

1. Who is Mamady Keita?
2. Where is Mamady Keita from?
3. What is a Djembe?
4. What is a Djembefola?

5. What are the three sounds of Djembe?

6. How many years did Mamady Keita play with Ballet Djoliba?

Continue watching the Documentary or skip until 24:24

Mamady Keita is visiting another Master drummer called Famoudou Konate.

Famoudou Konate has a school of Djembe where he teaches young children to play the Djembe and learn the many rhythms of their culture.

1. When the drummers want to start playing together, they count from one to four. Learn how to count to four in the Malinke language, the language they are speaking in the documentary.

Try it:

One Two Three Four

Kelin Fila Saba Nani

(Listen to Famoudou Konate counting and try to count with him in Malinke Language.)
You can continue to watch the remaining of the Documentary Film or continue below.

2. Learn the three sounds of Djembe and how to write them

Bass

Tone

Slap

3. What is a pattern? What is a Drum Pattern?

4. Create your own pattern using the three sounds, example:

Bass Bass Tone Tone Slap Slap Tone Tone

Write your own pattern below: