



# LESSON PLAN

Target Grade – 5th Grade



**Objective:** Students will learn about the modern culture of India expressed in musical theater and dance. Students will prepare to attend the Boerne Performing Arts performance.

**TEKS Addressed:**

Historical and cultural relevance: (S) Students will identify and describe music from diverse genres, styles, periods, and cultures;

Critical evaluation and Response: (U) Students will exhibit audience etiquette during live and recorded performances.

**Materials:** SMART Board (or screen) and computer for projecting materials

**Lesson:**

1. Have you ever wanted to travel around the world? Has anyone ever traveled to the country of India? Students will find India on the classroom map or globe.
2. Here are some TOP 10 facts about the country of India:  
(Fact list provided at <http://www.10-facts-about.com/India/id/4>)

**Fact 1:** India does not have a national language. The official languages used though are Hindi and English. There are 17 major languages used in the regions and 844 dialects.

**Fact 2:** India was one of the richest countries on earth until the British invasion in the early 17th century. India is still a very rich country though and the World Bank ranks India as the country with the tenth highest gross domestic product (GDP).

**Fact 3:** The most commonly used number system is the Hindu–Arabic numeral system which was invented in India and the Indian scientist Brahmagupta was the person who invented the digit zero.

**Fact 4:** Chess was invented in India and during the last few years chess has grown in popularity in India, primary due to the former chess world champion Viswanathan Anand.

**Fact 5:** India is the 6th largest country in the world, the largest democracy and one of the oldest civilizations.

**Fact 6:** India has the most number of mosques. It has 300,000 mosques which is much more than the Muslim world.

**Fact 7:** India is one of the largest exporter of computer software products.

**Fact 8:** Before 1986, India was the only place in the world where Diamonds could be found.

**Fact 9:** The biggest and the largest employer in the world is Indian railways employing over a million people.

**Fact 10:** India has the most number of post offices in the world.

3. Students will discover the term “Bollywood Dancing” by definition and history.

Facts about Bollywood Dancing (information provided from <https://musicopia.net/bollywood-dance-assembly/>):

- The Bollywood Dance Assembly starts with an audio/visual cultural journey across India, showcasing the diversity of culture, music, and the arts across India. Using ‘Bollywood Dancing’ as the vehicle, Swati Chaturvedi introduces the sounds and rhythms of India.
- The program continues with an engaging and fully interactive Bollywood dance workshop where students learn a new form of dancing in a fun and relaxed setting. Starting with basic steps and sequences, the group works towards a short dance routine. The program concludes with an energetic final group ‘performance’ led by Swati!
- An immersive experience suited for all ages (K-12) and skill levels, and is flexible to adapt to small, medium, or large groups.



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## The Term “Bollywood”

- The term Bollywood was created by combining two names, Bombay (the city now called Mumbai) and Hollywood. Bollywood based in Mumbai (Bombay), is India’s – and the world’s – largest film industry in terms of the number of films produced, and also the number of tickets sold each year. In fact, Bollywood has become so internationally ubiquitous that it now has its own entry in the Oxford English Dictionary!

## An International Sensation!

- It is not unusual to see Western pop and pure classical dance numbers side by side in a Bollywood film. The international appeal of Bollywood dancing is something that has been in the making for many decades. Originally it was found only in places that had a significant consumption of Indian films. But today it is rising in popularity in the US, Canada and Europe. With the success of films such as the Oscar winning movie “Slumdog Millionaire”, Bollywood films and dance have taken the world by storm & has now come into the global spotlight. Much of this is due to the ever expanding Indian diaspora, but a significant proportion also comes from non-Indians who are fascinated by the exotic, larger than life qualities inherent in it.

## A True East-West Fusion Dance Style

- The highlight of Bollywood movies are elaborate dance sequences and original soundtracks. Over the years Bollywood movies have developed their own signature style of song and dance, which combines the rich texture of India’s many classical and folk dances, fused with elements of Jazz, Hip – Hop, Arabic and Latin Forms

4. Students will be told of the upcoming, “first-hand” experience of the music, dance, and culture of India right here in Boerne! Discuss Boerne Performing Arts Student Experience Opportunity.

### Taj Express – Bollywood Musical Revue is coming to Boerne!

**TAJ EXPRESS** explodes with the sounds of India and Bollywood, capturing the vibrant, expressive spirit of the world of Bollywood movies that have been entertaining billions of people in India for generations. Through a fusion of film, dance, and music, this dazzling international sensation will take audiences on a live cinematic journey through modern Indian culture and society during their 2017 US tour. The production is a high energy celebration of new India’s pop music, Bollywood culture, and deep traditions featuring colorful costumes, joyful dance, and thrilling live music. Begin your journey through the heart of India with an evening at **TAJ EXPRESS**...The Bollywood Musical Revue!

(<http://boerneperformingarts.com/artist-info/>)

5. Watch promo video of Taj Express: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qyb67ibjt68#t=44>
6. Discuss audience manners, expectations on and off the bus, expectations as enter and exit CHS, expectations of dealing with BPA members and other teachers.
7. Explore the Artist’s Website at <http://www.tajexpressthemusical.com/bollywoodmusical/index.html>
  - \*Students will learn about the musical (summary)
  - \*Students will be able to learn facts about the Cast and Crew by exploring the Tab provided on the site.
8. Upon return from performance, students will be expected to report and discuss:
  - \*Favorite Dance and/or Scene
  - \*Favorite Style
  - \*Favorite Era of Indian Culture Expressed
  - \*Recommendation to next years’ 5<sup>th</sup> grade