

Boerne Performing Arts Lesson Plan – Royal National Ballet of Georgia
Target Grade -- 4th Grade

Objective: Students will learn about and experience folk dances of the country of Georgia and Eastern Europe. Students will prepare to attend the Boerne Performing Arts performance.

TEKS:

Historical and cultural relevance -- Students will be expected to identify and describe music from diverse genres, styles, periods, and cultures.

Critical Evaluation and Response -- Students will be expected to exhibit audience etiquette during live and recorded performances; evaluate a variety of compositions, and formal or informal musical performances using specific criteria; and justify personal preferences for specific music works and styles using music vocabulary.

Lesson Plan:

*Combining Georgian folk dances with a modern attitude toward the choreography and costumes of the different regions of Georgia, the **Royal National Dance Company** illustrates the variety of the world's folklore and classical dance elements while portraying the characteristics of the region in which it originated. Capturing the natural gracefulness and beauty of Georgian women and the courage, honor and respectfulness of Georgian men, this captivating evening full of colorful costumes and dance will light up the stage as they feature their program...**Fire of Georgia!** (<https://boerneperformingarts.com/artist-info/>)*

1. Watch promo video of The Royal National Ballet of Georgia:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MX9RELLsWIk>
2. Discuss audience manners, expectations on and off the bus, expectations as enter and exit CHS, expectations of dealing with BPA members and other teachers.
3. Learn about the country of Georgia and Georgian dance from a kid's perspective:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GEYCJUxYdYM>
4. Experience the Eastern European Dance, *Sasha!*. *Sasha!*, while not from Russia itself, has Russian words and a uniquely Eastern European melody. (lesson from <https://everyteachereveryday.kinf.org/easy-folk-dances-for-the-classroom/>)

Steps:

Students can begin this dance by standing in random formation. Teach the students how to pronounce the word Sasha and then the words for "one, two, three" which are "raz, dva, tri." If you are worried about pronunciation, you can just go with the English version of the words.

Here is the order of steps:

Part 1: Scolding:

Shaking index fingers in the air, the dancers shout SA-sha twice, and then shout “raz, dva, tri”.

Part 2: Clapping

- 1) Clap your right hand in the air 3 times
- 2) Repeat with left hand.
- 3) Repeat with both hands
- 4) Repeat but pat both hands on your knees
- 5) Repeat the entire sequence once more.

Part 3: Turning

Put one of your hands up and walk around in a circle for 8 beats and then change directions and hold up the other hand and walk for 8 beats. (Normally this is done with a partner but has been modified)

Part 4: Walking

Walk around the room (solo), randomly. Greet people as you pass them. The walking music lasts 32 beats. As soon as you hear the music change, start the dance all over again. Repeat this sequence until the music ends.

Music for dance: [Sasha Music](#)

For additional information, see: <https://worldtouring.net/pages/fire-of-georgia>

Upon return from performance, students will be expected to report and discuss:

- *Favorite Dance
- *Favorite Dancer in the Royal National Dance Company
- *Recommendation to next year’s 4th grade