



NYS Learning Standard	<p>The Arts 4: Understanding the Cultural Contributions of the Arts</p> <p>English Language Arts 1: Language for Information and Understanding</p> <p>English as a Second Language Arts 5: Language for Cultural Information and Understanding</p> <p>Social Studies 1: History of the United States and New York</p> <p>English Language Arts 3: Language for Critical Analysis and Evaluation</p>
Goals	<p>Know about the cultural origins of several art forms. Understand the relationship of various art forms to other art forms and American culture.</p>
Materials	<p>Several weeks' worth of newspapers</p> <p>Index cards</p> <p>Other resources on art forms</p>
Activity	<p>Students collect newspaper articles regarding topics related to the arts. Examples include reviews, feature articles, biographies, event announcements, and news stories. Students skim the articles for information on the cultural background of the featured art forms and make notes on each one using one index card for each art form.</p> <p>Students expand their knowledge of the cultural background of various art forms by using teacher-provided resources, the Internet, or the library.</p> <p>Students divide the cards into two piles, one representing their own ethnicity or cultural group, and one representing other cultural groups. (Most students will have more cards in the "other" pile.)</p> <p>Students discuss how multiple ethnic groups have contributed arts to American culture, and how these art forms affect and shape our culture.</p> <p>Students choose one card from their "other" pile and write a feature article explaining the history of the art form and how it has become integrated into our shared culture.</p>