

RIVERSEGE

STUDY GUIDE

2010



The following study guide is presented by the Rome Concert Band. It is intended for educators' use in the primary grades and is reproducible without charge.

The guide contains content information corresponding to music that is performed by the outreach group RiversEdge for their school concerts. It is written with elementary students in mind and can be adjusted to fit the needs of almost any class. We hope this may be useful to teachers and students and will enhance their listening experience.

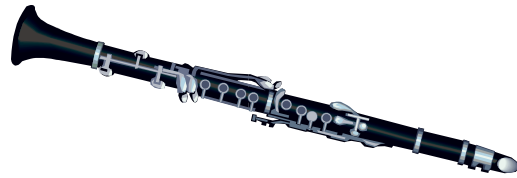
Program Objectives

- a. To offer an appreciation and understanding of music of different cultures
 - b. To introduce instruments to students
 - c. To experience a live concert performance

Regions to be explored: Africa, Australia, India

Anyone wishing to provide feedback about any of our study guides is welcome to email the Rome Concert Band at cconeil@verizon.net

RIVERSEDGE IS A DUO THAT PERFORMS MANY TYPES OF MUSIC. ONE MUSICIAN PLAYS THE CLARINET AND THE OTHER MUSICIAN PLAYS PERCUSSION INSTRUMENTS.



CLARINET



MARIMBA



CLAVES



DJEMBE



CYMBALS/TOM TOMS



**RIVERSEDGE WILL PERFORM MUSIC FROM AFRICA
(MIKURDI)**

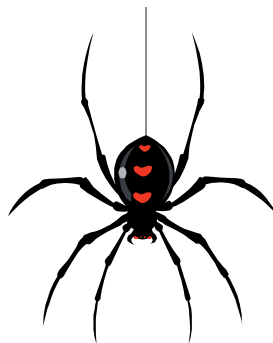
AFRICAN CULTURE IS CLOSELY INTERWOVEN WITH RHYTHM AND DANCE. THE RHYTHM IS SOMETIMES DOMINATED BY VOICE WITH THE SINGER DRIVING THE RHYTHM.

THE CLARINET WILL TAKE THE VOCAL LINE IN THIS PERFORMANCE. THE OTHER SOUND IS THE BEATING DRUM. THERE ARE MANY DIFFERENT AFRICAN DRUMS. RIVERSEDGE USES THE DJEMBE (SAY GEM-BE) DRUM IN THIS PIECE. THE DJEMBE IS A WOODEN SHELL, HOLLOWED OUT AND SHAPED LIKE A GOBLET. THE DRUMHEAD IS MADE OF ANIMAL SKIN AND ATTACHED WITH METAL RINGS CONNECTED TO STRONG ROPES WHICH ARE USED TO TUNE THE DRUM. INSTRUCTIONS ON HOW TO MAKE AN AFRICAN DRUM ARE INCLUDED AT THE END OF THIS GUIDE.



**THE STORY OF THE SPIDER ANANSI IS FROM WEST AFRICA
IN GHANA. BY GERALD McDERMOTT. ISBN # 0-8050-
0310-x.**

**STUDENTS CAN HEAR HOW THE MUSIC HELPS MAKE
THE STORY COME ALIVE!**



RIVERSEDGE WILL PLAY MUSIC FROM AUSTRALIA.

(BINYANG)



AUSTRALIA IS THE SIXTH LARGEST COUNTRY IN THE WORLD. THE MAINLAND IS THE WORLD'S LARGEST ISLAND. IT IS ABOUT THE SAME SIZE AS THE 48 MAINLAND STATES OF THE USA. AUSTRALIA IS THE ONLY NATION TO GOVERN AN ENTIRE CONTINENT AND ITS OUTLYING ISLANDS.

AUSTRALIA HAS SOME COOL ANIMALS! CAN YOU NAME SOME? RIVERSEDGE IS PLAYING A PICE OF MUSIC THAT SOUNDS JUST LIKE A BIRD FROM AUSTRALIA.

AUSTRALIA IS HOME TO NATIVE ABORIGINAL PEOPLE. ABORIGINAL SOCIETY IS BELIEVED TO BE THE WORLD'S OLDEST CIVILIZATION. THE WORD BINYANG MEANS BIRD IN THE NOW DEFUNCT ABORIGINAL LANGUAGE.

INDIAN MUSIC (DUAL MONOLOGUE)



THE MUSIC OF INDIA INFLUENCES THE INDIAN LIFE. MUSIC IS IN ALL PARTS OF THE CULTURE, FROM BIRTH TO DEATH IN RELIGIOUS CEREMONIES AND FESTIVALS. INDIAN MUSIC OFTEN HAS A MEDITATIVE OR SPIRITUAL MEANING.

THE SOUND OF INDIAN MUSIC MAY NOT BE FAMILIAR TO OUR AMERICAN EARS. THE MELODY IS BASED ON A COMBINATION OF NOTES CALLED A RAGA. EACH RAGA CREATES AN ATMOSPHERE ASSOCIATED WITH FEELINGS AND SENTIMENTS. THESE NOTES ARE CAREFULLY SELECTED! ANY STRAY COMBINATION OF NOTES CANNOT BE CALLED A RAGA.

TALA IS THE RHYTHMICAL GROUPINGS OF BEATS. TALA IS THE PULSE OF THE MUSIC. LISTEN FOR THE BEAT OF THE MUSIC. DOES IT GO FASTER AND THEN SLOWER? LAYA IS THE TEMPO (SPEED) OF THE MUSIC.

CONCERT ETIQUETTE

WHEN WE GO TO CONCERTS, WE MAY GO FOR MANY REASONS, BUT THE MOST IMPORTANT REASON IS TO WATCH AND LISTEN TO THE PERFORMERS. THE PERFORMERS ARE NOT ON TELEVISION. THEY ARE ALIVE; THEY CAN SEE AND HEAR THE AUDIENCE. THEY WANT TO BE ABLE TO DO A GREAT JOB FOR YOU. GOOD CONCERT ETIQUETTE HELPS THE AUDIENCE HAVE A GOOD MUSICAL EXPERIENCE.

OVER THE YEARS AUDIENCES HAVE DEVELOPED CERTAIN IDEAS ABOUT WHAT IS APPROPRIATE FOR CONCERT BEHAVIOR OR CONCERT ETIQUETTE. IF EVERYONE FOLLOWS THESE IDEAS, EVERYONE CAN HAVE A POSITIVE EXPERIENCE AT CONCERTS. THE BASIC RULE IS THIS:

DON'T DO ANYTHING THAT MAKES PEOPLE NOTICE YOU INSTEAD OF THE PERFORMANCE. BE COURTEOUS.

ENJOY! - RIVERSEGE

WORLD
Political Map



SUGGESTIONS FOR PRE PERFORMANCE ACTIVITIES:

- 1. USING A MAP, LOCATE THE COUNTRIES OF AFRICA, AUSTRALIA AND INDIA.**
- 2. ASK STUDENTS WHAT THEY ALREADY KNOW ABOUT THE MUSIC AND MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS FROM THESE COUNTRIES.**
- 3. FOR REGIONS THAT ARE UNFAMILIAR, EXPLORE THE COUNTRY THROUGH IT'S ENVIRONMENT, CULTURE, AND HISTORY. THE LINKS PROVIDED CAN BE USED AS RESOURCES FOR INFORMATION.**

FOLLOW UP ACTIVITIES:

- 1. CONDUCT FURTHER RESEARCH ABOUT COUNTRIES AND ETHNIC GROUPS THAT WERE PRESENTED.**
- 2. MAKE MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS. THE DIRECTIONS FOR MAKING AN AFRICAN DRUM ARE INCLUDED WITH THIS GUIDE.**
- 3. DISCUSS THE IMPORTANCE OF HONORING DIVERSITY.**

SOURCES:

WWW.ALLSTAYS.COM

WWW.EHOW.COM

WWW.AUSTRALIA.COM

WWW.CLASSACTSARTS.ORG

WWW.INDIANMELODY.COM