

INTEGRATING ALL ART FORMS



0337CH20



Bansuri

Your textbook is named, *Bansuri*. This is a musical instrument with magical and melodious sound which everyone loves. Do you know *bansuri* is made from bamboo? You can also make it yourself and play it as well. When you go to a fair or a local *mela*, there is always someone selling toys and playing *bansuri*, and you all get attracted to the sound. The same *bansuri* is played in dances and used as a prop in drama. A *bansuri* can even be made with paper, bamboo or clay or a scene with someone playing *bansuri* in the jungle or fields can be drawn.

All art forms are very different from each other; at the same time they all have many common features and are connected with each other. For example, *swara*, *laya*, *bhava* and *taala* are related to all art forms—music, dance, theatre and visual arts. They all have movement, rhythm, and a language of their own to communicate. You can express your emotions through art.

Here, we have some activities that bring in all art forms together—you can do these activities and enjoy!



ACTIVITY 1 Integration of Art Forms

Here is an example of a four-line verse written in Sanskrit composed by Nandikeshwara in *Abhinaya Darpana* around a thousand years ago. Usually, artists recite this before starting their performances. You can read it loudly with action. You can also refer to the videos by scanning the QR code.

आङ्गिकं भुवनं यस्य, वाचिकं सर्व वाङ्मयम्।
आहार्यं चन्द्र तारादि, तं वन्दे सात्त्विकं शिवम्॥

*Aangikam bhuvanam yasya,
Vaachikam sarva vangmayam.
Aaharyam chandra taradi
Tam vande saattvikam Shivam.*

Meaning

Where the physical body is the universe, speech or song is the essence of all sounds, ornamentation is the Moon and the stars.

I bow down to that supreme divinity.

It brings together all the four art forms you are learning—

Angika — Physical performance with movement, action and expression

Vaachika — Speech, dialogue, songs and lyrics

Aahaarya — Costumes, jewellery, sculpture, painting

Saatvika — The deepest emotional spiritual experience for the artiste and audience.

ACTIVITY 2 Bansuri

You can make a *bansuri* for which you will only need a thick chart paper, glue, a pair of scissors and some crayons or colour pencils.

- Draw a picture of a *bansuri* on a chart paper. Roll it over in the shape of a cylinder and add some glue on the edges. Put small holes in it, and here, your *bansuri* is ready.
- You can make a drawing of a *bansuri* as well, add several things around it such as people, animals, and objects around the *bansuri*, draw a picture of interesting things in the forest, such as animals, flowers, etc.
- Now, create a story using *bansuri* as the theme and the picture you have drawn. Show it in the class along with some actions.
- You can also use any object around you and improvise it as a *bansuri* to narrate the story. You can also use the *bansuri* as a prop.
- Imagine yourself as the musical instrument—*bansuri* and enact.
- You can create simple movements and steps with the song or tune on the *bansuri*.

Teacher's Note

Children can be made to listen to the sound of *bansuri* and imagine Lord Shri Krishna playing *bansuri* in the fields while leading a herd of cows. They can also learn a folk song on this theme. All the activities can be divided in groups of 4–5 students and the whole class can be involved.



ACTIVITY 3 Near Nature

We all love nature, we try to feel it and live near nature and enjoy the sounds, colours, and greenery. You all can create a forest inside your classroom as well.

- Make a flower in the centre of a sheet. Every child in your group will add something around the flower and create a picture of a garden or a forest.
- Create a story that involves flowers, birds, trees and animals.
- Move around like you are walking through a forest.
- Are you excited? Curious?
- React to what you imagine you will see (your favourite animal, smell of flowers, big rocks etc.)
- What kinds of sounds would you hear in a forest or garden? (birds chirping, water flowing) Try to create their sounds.
- Feel as if you are in natural surroundings, like a forest or a park.



Teacher's Note

Children can learn a song on animals, birds, nature, etc. All the above activities can be conducted in groups of 4–5 students and the whole class can be involved.



ACTIVITY 4 Festival for Celebrations

We all celebrate various festivals. We usually get holidays around big festivals, and they bring joy and colour in our lives. Celebrating a festival, small or big makes us happy, since we get new clothes, have good food, meet friends and relatives, and clean and decorate our homes.

Teacher's Note

The core idea behind this activity is to build connections between art forms.

- Children can learn a festival song.
- Activities can be presented in the school assembly for special occasions. Divide the class into groups for different art forms based on a theme. This would give the children an opportunity to face the audience and build an understanding of the connections between the artforms.

Different groups can do the following;

- Pick a festival that we celebrate together.
- Discuss in your group how you celebrate it and what preparations are required, what special dishes or food items are prepared, how you decorate your home, and which songs and dances are related to that festival.
- Draw a *rangoli* or other decorations with paper cutouts for a particular festival.
- Learn a song based on that festival.
- Sing it using kitchen utensils.
- Share an incident that happened during a festival celebration.
- Share and enact a story connected to the festival being celebrated.
- Use simple movements and steps for the festival song using the same kitchen utensils for musical sounds.
- Draw the traditional dresses worn on the occasion.



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