



Strand: Dance
Level: Grade 1/2
Content: 45 minute broadcast + hands-on activity

LIVE Arts: Métis Jigging

Krystle Pederson is a traditional jigger and Métis dance instructor. In Métis Jigging Part 2, Krystle will talk about different styles of fiddle music and how jigging steps are incorporated into other styles of dance. Through demonstrations and practise, students will build on the skills and knowledge gained in Part 1. Krystle will introduce new jigging steps with an emphasis on travelling and working with a partner. She will also demonstrate and share her belief in the importance of community and working together.

PLEASE NOTE: Métis Jigging Part 2 will build on skills and knowledge from Part 1, which aired in 2015. When you register, you will receive the Part 1 Teacher Guide and instructions on how to view “Part 1” with your students. We recommend that you view part 1 and do the related activities with your students before Part 2 airs on November 8 and 9. If your students participated in “Part 1” last year, it may still be useful to review the steps learned at that time.

Please see page 3 for **Teacher Guided Post-Broadcast Activities**. These activities will give students the opportunity to apply what they have learned during the broadcast.

About the Artists

Krystle Pederson is a Cree/Métis Singer, dancer, actor and musician with a remarkable career. Born with the gift of music, she started performing at a young age. Krystle’s list of credits include winning awards in music festivals and competitions, receiving the Sasktel Aboriginal youth awards, co-hosting the National Aboriginal Career Symposium in Ottawa with Evan Adams. She represented the Métis at the 2010 Olympic torch relay in Saskatoon, and in 2001 performed at the National Aboriginal Achievement awards in Edmonton. Krystle is also part of a women’s traditional hand drum group called “Iskwew Singers”, and has travelled with them to Festival Yurame in Mexico. Her acting credits include a supporting role in a Saskatchewan film called “Run, Broken Yet Brave” and the lead in Tomson Highway’s one woman musical “The (Post) Mistress”. Krystle is also an educator and mentor of cultural dance and many forms of beading. Krystle is a well respected leader in her community.

Curriculum Aims & Goals

Creative/Productive:

Students will learn several Red River Jig steps, the Broom Dance, and how to dance in time to the music.

Critical/Responsive:

Students will be asked to identify several kinds of Métis fiddle music and dance styles.

Cultural/Historical:

Krystle will show students the difference between “old style” and contemporary Métis fiddle music. She will emphasize that the Métis drew from both Settler and First Nations traditions to create their own unique artistic culture.

Curriculum Outcomes: www.curriculum.gov.sk.ca

CP1.1

Create movements and movement patterns in response to stimuli such as stories, poems, music, or objects as starting points.

CP1.2

Create short dance phrases using the elements of dance including:

- actions (locomotor and non-locomotor)
- body (whole and parts)
- dynamics (different ways of moving)
- relationships (explore variety)
- space (awareness of pathways, levels, sizes, shapes).

CR1.2

Investigate and describe various reasons for creating arts expressions.

CH1.2

Identify traditional arts expressions of First Nations and Métis artists.

CP2.1

Create and connect dance phrases using ideas about community as stimuli (e.g., our school, community events, farm life, city life, cultural heritage).

CP2.2

Create and connect dance phrases using the elements of dance including:

- actions (identify variety)
- body (bases)
- dynamics (move with varying speeds, duration, forces)
- relationships (using own words, classify variety of relationships with partner or object such as above, below, beside)
- space (straight or curved pathways or combinations).

CR2.1

Examine arts expressions to determine how ideas for arts expressions may come from artists' own communities.

CH2.2

Describe key features of traditional arts expressions of Saskatchewan First Nations and Métis artists.

Teacher Guided Pre-Broadcast Activity

Métis Jigging Part 2 will build on skills and knowledge from Part 1, which aired in 2015. When you register, you will receive the Part 1 Teacher Guide and instructions on how to view “Part 1” with your students. We recommend that you view part 1 and do the related activities with your students before Part 2 airs on November 8 and 9. If your students participated in “Part 1” last year, it may still be useful to review the steps learned at that time.

Broadcast Program (45 min)

Presentation 1

Review: Who is Krystle? Who are the Métis?

Activity 1: Warm up

Presentation 2

Krystle will teach students about old style and new style fiddle music, Métis square dancing and the Broom Dance.

Activity 2

Learning a new Jigging step and the Broom Dance.

Questions/ Wrap Up

If you are watching from a distance text questions to 306.291.7355 to have your questions answered on air!!

Materials and resources for broadcast:

- Each student will need a broom or stick (hockey stick, broom handle, etc) for activities during the broadcast.
- Students will need a wide open space to practise dance steps. Ideally they should be able to raise their arms to the side and not touch their neighbour, and have plenty of room in front and behind them.

Teacher Guided Post-Broadcast Activities

As a follow up to the broadcast, select one or more of the following activities to continue your students' learning.

Activity: Invent and Combine Steps (30-45 minutes)

Play music while students practice!
Krystle recommends the songs listed in the box on the right.

Activity

1. Review safety tips before beginning;

- Sticks stay on the floor until students are instructed to pick them up

Materials/ Resources for Activity:

- Download two songs from itunes (.99 each):
“The Chicken Reel” by John Arcand from the album *Dedications*
“Big John McNeil” by Dallas Boyer from the album *Métis Music Volume 2*
- Computer or media player, speakers
- Students will need enough space to practise dance steps. Ideally they should be able to raise their arms to the side and not touch their neighbour, and have plenty of space in front and behind.
- Each student will need a broom or stick (hockey stick, broom handle, etc).

- Sticks stay low (no sticks in the air)
- Always allow space between yourself and a neighbour
- Be patient with yourself! Have fun!

2. Review steps

Have students stand in a large circle to review what they learned during the broadcast.

- How many jigging steps can the class remember? Have students demonstrate and have the whole group try. (for example horse step, skipping, cross-skipping, bunny, scissors)
- Who remembers the Broom Dance? Have students demonstrate and have the whole group try.

3. Create new steps with the broom

Much like the Métis drew inspiration from various settler and First Nations cultures to create the Red River Jig, students can use their own knowledge and experiences to create new steps for the Broom Dance.

- Spend a few minutes brainstorming with the class. What could serve as inspiration for the creation of new steps with the broom? (Plants, animals, machines, etc).

***** Remind students how to be safe with the broom. Rules: Broom stays low, keep your distance from other students.*

- Play music and give students some time to develop their own broom moves. Krystle recommends the songs *Chicken Reel* and *Big John McNeill* (see box on previous page). Students may work individually or in pairs.

- Once students have developed a new move, bring them back to the large circle. Ask them to move to the center one at a time to share their new steps with the class. Remember that jigging is a way to have fun and learn together!

4. Combine steps

Option 1: As a large group, combine one or two invented steps with a few steps that Krystle taught during the broadcast. Practice as a group.

Option 2: Break class into groups of 4. Ask students to teach the members of their group their step. Then ask students to work together to combine the steps to create a short dance. Once students have had time to practice, ask each group to present their dance to the class.

Additional activities

Note: While several of the following resources have been evaluated by teachers and recommended for use in schools, some have not been formally evaluated. Teachers are advised to preview all videos, music lyrics and other resources listed below before using with students.

GDI Teacher Guidebook

The Gabriel Dumont Institute (GDI) has developed a guidebook for teachers to support the teaching about the Métis and to utilize strategies that foster and promote literacy development. One of the sections in this resource supports the dance strand of the Arts Education curriculum. This resource provides an easy to use teacher-friendly guide accompanied by pieces of literature to support teaching Métis dance.

[📄 Bringing Métis Children's Literature to Life: Teacher Guidebook for GDI Publications](#)

Click "View document" to see the pdf. The "Dance Cluster" of suggested books and activities begins on page 62.

**Books used in these activities are available for purchase through the GDI shop <https://gdins.org/shop-gdi/> or may be requested through your local public library.

Métis Dances Kit: Kindergarten to Grade Nine. 2nd ed.

Authors: Saskatchewan Education

* Available in school libraries or portions are available on-line

<http://www.metismuseum.ca/browse/index.php/208>

(SK, FNMI) In recognition of Métis contributions to the province, Saskatchewan Education, with the assistance of an Advisory Committee, produced the Métis Dances Kit. The kit contains two audiocassette tapes that provide music by Saskatchewan musicians, and a teacher handbook that has instructions and illustrations on Métis dances. The history of Métis dancing and the type of clothing worn are also included. Some of the dances are posted on the website of the Gabriel Dumont Institute of Native Studies and Applied Research at <http://www.metismuseum.ca/browse/index.php/208>. Either QuickTime or Windows Media Player is required to view the videos.

One copy was sent to each Elementary and Middle Level Saskatchewan school in 1990.

Note: This resource supports the Grade 4 focus “Saskatchewan Voices” and has also been recommended to support the renewed physical education curriculum at the Kindergarten to Grade 9 levels.

Recommended Resources

Note: While several of the following resources have been evaluated by teachers and recommended for use in schools, some have not been formally evaluated. Teachers are advised to preview all videos, music lyrics and other resources listed below before using with students.

Resources for classroom use

Dance

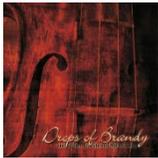
Steps in Time: Métis Dances

(CORE, SK, FNMI) The video Steps in Time: Métis Dances teaches three Métis dances: Duck Dance, Fancy Jig, and Rabbit Dance.

<http://www.metismuseum.ca/browse/index.php/208>

<https://gdins.org/product/steps-in-time-ii-metis-dance-instruction/>

Music



Drops of Brandy and Other Traditional Métis Tunes: Volume Two

(SK, FNMI) On two compact discs, Volume Two of Drops of Brandy offers a comprehensive collection of traditional Métis fiddle tunes. It features accomplished Métis fiddlers including John Arcand, Mel Bedard, Hap Boyer, Ed Lafferty, Richard Lafferty, Garry Lepine, and Homer Poitras.

The accompanying book Drops of Brandy: An Anthology of Métis Music contains biographies, archival and contemporary photographs, sheet music, stories about the fiddle, and a history of each fiddle tune featured in the collection.

A companion book of music to support the compact disc is available.

Métis Culture and Traditions

Teacher Guidebook for GDI Publications

The Gabriel Dumont Institute (GDI) has developed a guidebook for teachers to support the teaching about the Métis and to utilize strategies that foster and promote literacy development. This resource provides an easy to use teacher-friendly guide accompanied by pieces of literature to support teaching about the Métis.

[Bringing Métis Children's Literature to Life: Teacher Guidebook for GDI Publications](#)

Click "View document" to see the pdf.

Taanishi Books – Emergent Reader Series

This is a levelled reader set developed by the Gabriel Dumont Institute with 9 themes relating to Métis language, culture, values and traditions. The themes are: Métis clothing, Métis Identity, Métis Dance, Métis Food, Métis Beadwork, Métis Music, Métis Symbols and Celebrations, Métis Traditional Storytelling

<https://gdins.org/product/taanishi-books/>

Turtle Island Voices (Grades 1-8)

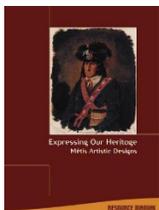
Turtle Island Voices is a series of books that honour the histories, cultures and worldviews of Canada's Aboriginal communities. There are a number of books in the series that can be used to support teaching about the Métis culture. These books are in both English and French and have a range from grade 1 to grade 8.

Primary: The Sash, Time to Celebrate,

Intermediate: The Gift of the Red River Jig, Making Music, Let's Dance,

Senior: In Tune, Our Voices

<http://canada.turtleislandvoices.com/>



Expressing Our Heritage: Métis Artistic Designs

Authors: Troupe, Cheryl

(CORE, SK, FNMI) Touted as the first synthesis of traditional Métis clothing to date, this kit offers 50 high-quality colour study prints that portray the diversity of traditional Métis culture. On the back of each print is valuable information about that particular visual. These prints and the accompanying teacher's resource provide support material for the instruction of Métis history and culture, as well as archival research materials for students.

The teacher's resource offers extensive background reading and units of study with themes and topics that could be adapted to support various curricula. Included are a table of contents, a glossary, Michif language translations, a section of attractive maps, and a bibliography.

Additional Resources for Teachers

Gabriel Dumont Institute Virtual Museum of Métis History and Culture

This is a comprehensive website that chronicles traditional Métis history and culture. It contains a wealth of primary documents as well as visual, audio and video files.

This link below is to the Music and Dance collection on the website. You can find many Métis music and dance resources to extend students' learning about the Métis culture.

<http://www.metismuseum.ca/resource.php/02316>

Métis Legacy II (Adult Book)

By Lawrence Barkwell, Leah M. Dorion, and Audreen Hourie

Michif is more than a language. It is both a worldview and a name for a people. This timely book, the second volume of The Metis Legacy Series, delineates traditional Michif culture including: folklore, storytelling, medicines, and healing traditions, spirituality, transportation systems, housing, clothing, and family structures. Co-published with Pemmican Publications, this resource is an indispensable companion for all those interested in knowing more about the Michif worldview and culture.

Available for purchase here;

<https://gdins.org/product/metis-legacy-ii-michif-culture-heritage-and-folkways/>

Métis Artists

Maria Campbell (author, playwright)

Books: Little Badger and the Fire Spirit, Rabbit Dance Book

Ashum Stompers- Dance <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pcgq5x57cFs>

Creeland Dancers- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aEjdgudnIDo>

Sierra Noble- Dance- Red River Jig (recorded at 14 years of age)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1XsrUYNPDks>

<http://www.sierranoble.com/>

Donny Parenteau – Musician <http://www.donnyparenteau.com/>

Leah Dorian - teacher, painter, filmmaker and author. <http://www.leahdorian.ca/>

Andrea Menard – Singer, actor, writer. <http://www.andreamenard.com/media.html>

Métis Festivals

John Arcand Fiddle Festival

<http://www.johnarcanfiddlefest.com/>

Back to Batoche Days

<http://backtobatoche.org/>