

Around the Americas

with 123 Andrés

Learning Guide

Where Are We?

In the video series, we learned about music from four different countries and regions of the Americas! Find and color all four on the map:

- **Mexico**
- **Guatemala**
- **Puerto Rico**
- **the “Altiplano”**

See if you can also write the type of music next to the region where it originates:

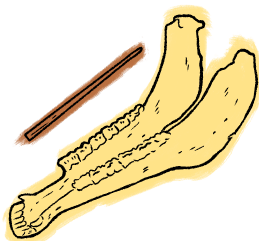
- **Son Jarocho**
- **Guatemalan marimba music**
- **Bomba**
- **Huayno and Chacarera**



How It's Made

Today, many instruments are created from man-made, or synthetic, materials, but many years ago, instruments were only made from materials that people could find in the natural world.

Draw a line to match the instrument with the material from which it is traditionally made.



La Quijada



El Charangano



El Bombo legüero



Las Baquetas



La Marimba



Los Chinchines



El Siku

wood

animal skin / fur

reeds

bone

**seeds or
dried fruit**

**armadillo shell
or wood**

rubber or wool

Reflecting On the Land

In many of the musical traditions we learned about, people come up with short phrases to help them remember the rhythm pattern, and teach it to others. The words mimic what the rhythm pattern sounds like. In the videos, three of our friends used phrases to teach us a rhythm.

“Café con pan” – Son Jarocho rhythm of Mexico

“Papito Papá, Mamita Mamá” – Chacarera rhythm of Argentina

“Tú ven acá” – Bomba Sicá rhythm of Puerto Rico

Each syllable in the word has its own beat, but some syllables have a stress, or a bigger sound, than others.

What do you think these phrases would sound like as rhythm patterns, if you played them on a drum? Say the phrases, and then try playing them with an instrument.

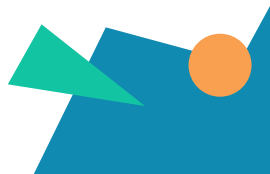
“Run, Spot, run”

“Huffing puffing, choo-choo!”

“Pepperoni pizza, pepperoni pizza, pepperoni pepperoni pepperoni pizza”

Now make up your own rhythm pattern! Once you’ve got it, think of a word phrase that sounds like your rhythm pattern, so you can teach it to someone else.

My phrase



You've Got Rhythm!

Geography plays a big part in how music is created and enjoyed in different parts of the world. In the busy port city of Veracruz in Mexico, Son Jarocho music grew up from three sources:

- *Spanish colonizers*
- *Indigenous (native) people*
- *African people*

Reflect back on how all of these people ended up together in Veracruz. The Indigenous people were living there, and the Spanish explorers arrived and stole the lands from them. Then, the Spanish and other Europeans brought Africans whom they captured and forced into slavery. Music was a way for each of these populations to keep their culture and traditions alive. Because Veracruz was a port city, people from all three groups were there, and Son Jarocho music developed; this musical tradition is unique to that place.

How has your geography shaped the person you are? What music, activities, or celebrations do you enjoy because of where you live?

Listen for More

We learned about four musical traditions that come from four different parts of the Americas. But, in each of those countries, people make and listen to lots of different kinds of music! Think about it – in the USA, there isn't just one kind of music that people make or listen to, is there? Each of the countries/regions we explored have many more rhythms and styles of music. Visit the links below to hear a few of them!

Mexico - Norteño 🎧

This “family” of styles has roots in Northern Mexico, and uses different instruments from Son Jarocho. You'll hear the accordion and the tuba.

bit.ly/123StudyGuide-Norteno

Guatemala - Garifuna 🎧

The Garifuna people are descendants of the Carib indigenous people of Eastern Guatemala and Africans who were brought to Guatemala during the slave trade.

bit.ly/123StudyGuide-Garifuna

Puerto Rico - Jíbaro 🎧

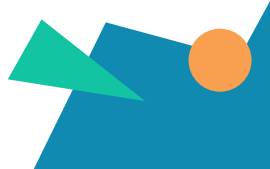
Jíbaro means “countryside”; jíbaro música comes from Puerto Rico's countryside. You'll hear guitar and also cuatro, a stringed guitar-like instrument that's Puerto Rico's national instrument.

bit.ly/123StudyGuide-Jibaro

Argentina - Chamamé 🎧

Chamamé is one of the genres of Argentina's Litoral, or northeast region, which borders Uruguay, Brazil, and Paraguay. Chamamé has strong roots in Indigenous Guaraní tradition.

bit.ly/123StudyGuide-Chamame



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Teacher or Parent Guide

Thank you for sharing Around the Americas with your students! Each of the videos features do-it-yourself “challenges,” where viewers use everyday objects to participate in different activities from each region. To have the materials prepared before viewing, we’ve recapped the complete list of objects below, followed by the timestamps for when they are used.

Object List (per student or child):

- Egg carton (cartons made of paperboard work better than those made of styrofoam, although either will work)
- Seeds
- 4 pencils
- Piece of paper
- Tape
- Small can/tin without lid
- Coins/rocks (to weigh down small tin)
- Big can/tin without lid, and/or cardboard box
- Three marker caps (with no holes in bottom of cap)
- 3-4 glass cups or coffee mugs, filled with varying amounts of water
- 2 small containers with lids
- Rice grains

Timestamps:

EPISODE 1: MEXICO

7:27 - Quijada challenge: egg carton, seeds, pencil, plus paper and tape (if egg carton has holes)

10:56 - Zapateado challenge: a hard floor and space to move

14:34 - Bruja challenge: small tin or can and coins/small rocks (to add weight)

EPISODE 2: ARGENTINA

7:04 - Chacarera challenge: big can/tin without lid or cardboard box and two pencils

10:15 - Sikus challenge: three marker caps (no holes in bottom) and tape

14:14 - Three Two challenge: space to work with a partner

EPISODE 3: GUATEMALA

4:14 - Marimba challenge: 3-4 glass cups or coffee mugs, water, pencil

7:25 - Baqueta challenge: use your marimba glasses/mugs, add 3 pencils (4 pencils total)

13:14 - Son challenge: 2 small containers/cans/tins with lids, rice, bigger can/tin without lid, pencil

EPISODE 4: PUERTO RICO

4:00 - Bomba rhythms - big can/tin without lid

6:26 - Bomba Sicá challenge - big can/tin without lid

13:41 - Sicá Dance challenge - room to move, partner, big can/tin without lid

