

“DANCES AROUND EUROPE”

The following units related to dances have been developed to be used in a rural scholar area where there are five small schools. The area is called “ZER L'ERAL ” and it is located in the village of Sarroca de Lleida.

These lessons are designed for the pupils of about 8/9 to 12 years old and they are part of Physical Education.

In the schools where I teach there are very few children therefore we divide children into two classes, children from 3 to 7 go in one class and children from 8/9 to 12 go in another so I need to work with the whole class so this is the reason I will use my project with children from 9 to 12(cicle mitjà i superior) instead of using it only with children from 10 to 12(cicle superior).

➤ **Why this project Topic?**

Dances are a form of artistic expression and human communication. Body expression is an important part of physical education.

Dance provides a range of exciting and creative opportunities for children to express their feelings and their thoughts through movement. More than half of our impact as a speaker depends upon our body language so it is very important that children know that not only can they express themselves with words but also with their bodies, using gestures and mime.

As a physical activity, dance also has a contribution to make to health-related fitness. It is particularly concerned with bodily control, mobility and flexibility, co-ordination, posture, strength and the use of energy.

➤ **Aims**

Pupils are going to improve their English skills and they are going to learn English in a different way. I think that PE is a good subject to do in english because it is dinamic and it involves physical responses, actions and movements by the pupils too. I believe that the activities are meaningful for them and also English becomes more alive as it is not only written in books.

➤ **Structure of the project**

“Dances around Europe” is divided in 4 units of work which represent four different countries or regions of Europe:

Catalonia, Greece, Denmark and Ireland.

There are different lessons of work for each country or region.

Catalonia: there are four lessons of work of 60 minutes each lesson

Greece: there are four lessons of work of 60 minutes each lesson

Denmark: there are three lessons of work of 60 minutes each lesson

Ireland: there are four lessons of work of 60 minutes each lesson

During all the lessons children learn the main features of each country or region, some physical education activities used as a warm up exercises and the dance of each place.

➤ **Cross curricular links**

This project will not only involve the subject of physical education but it will also involve other subjects such as Music and Geography. This is because the children will hear different kinds of music and see on a map where the country or region is.

➤ **What the students have learned?**

At the end of the four units, pupils should improve their level of english, their thinking skills and also their attitude towards other cultures and people as well as developing their skills as dancers.