

TEACHER'S GUIDE

FOUNDATION PROGRAMME FOR LITERACY
NUMERACY AND SKILLS

DANCE



GRADE 7

TITLE OF CARD :

Cultural Appreciation & Digital Integration



**MOE
MAHATMA GANDHI INSTITUTE
2025**

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GRADE 7

GUIDE TO EDUCATORS

Card 2

TITLE OF CARD :

DANCE IN MAURITIUS



Competency

Cultural Appreciation & Digital Integration

Students learn to recognise and appreciate the wide variety of Mauritian dance traditions that reflect our multicultural identity. Students express emotions related to patriotism, unity, and cultural pride through movement.

Element

Students explore how cultural identity is reflected through movement and performance.

Performance Criteria

- **Level 1:** Identify different Mauritian dance forms.
- **Level 2:** Perform simple basic steps from selected Mauritian dances and show simple gestures that express unity, patriotism, or cultural pride.

Purpose of Activity

- Introduce students to the main dance forms practiced in Mauritius.
- Show the multicultural roots of Mauritian dance (European, African, Indian, Chinese).
- Help students understand how dance expresses unity, heritage, and national pride.
- Allow learners to experience simple movement patterns inspired by Segga, Indian folk, Bhojpuri, Bollywood, and Chinese festival dances.
- Encourage patriotism and teamwork through group-based creative tasks.

Learning Outcomes

By the end of the lesson, students should be able to:

- Identify **various dance** forms from Mauritius.
- Describe the multicultural roots of Mauritian dance.
- Perform simple movements inspired by selected dances (Indian folk, Bhojpuri, Sega, Lion/Dragon dance gestures).
- Explain how dance expresses patriotism, unity, and cultural heritage.

Resources & Materials

- Images/video clips of Mauritian dance forms
- Instruments.
- Flashcards: folk, classical, Bollywood, Sega, Bhojpuri, patriotism
- Open space

5. Teaching Trajectories / Implementation Guidelines

Introduction

Cultural Heritage of Mauritius

Mauritius is a multicultural island where people from **India, Africa, Europe,** and **China** have contributed to our cultural identity. Dance is one of the strongest expressions of this heritage. Our local dance traditions reflect unity, respect, and togetherness, and they remind us to remain proud Mauritians.

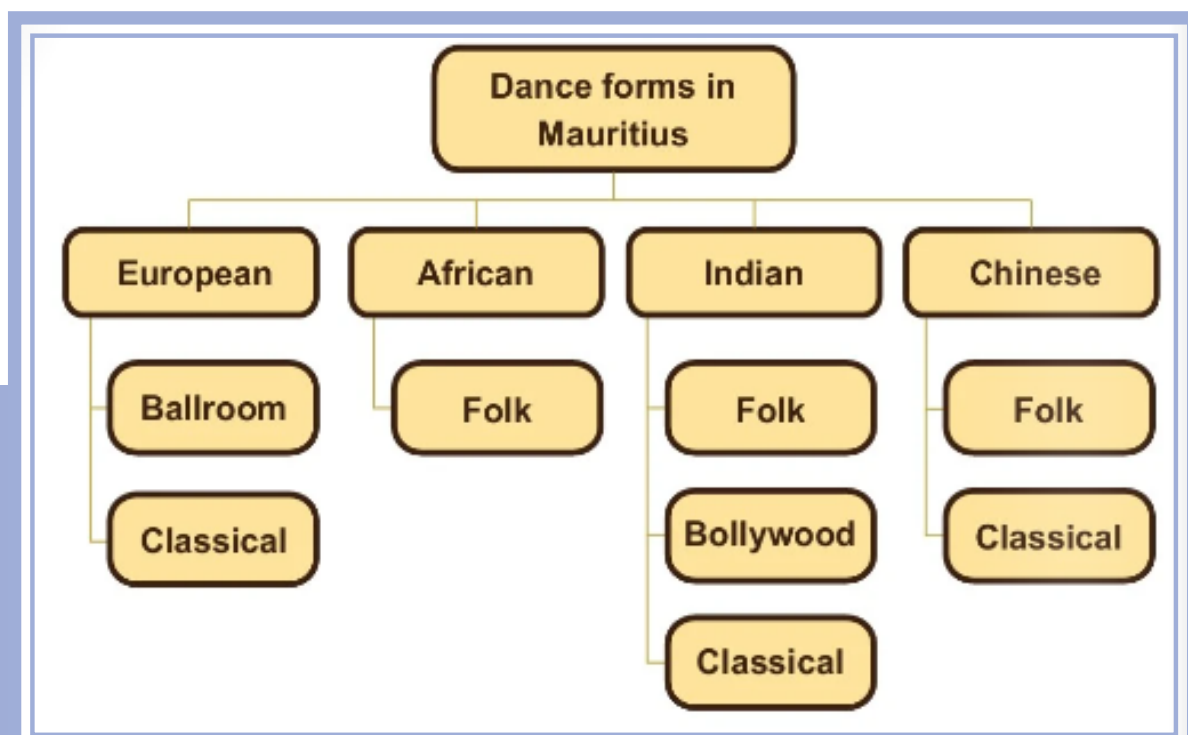




Dance Forms in Mauritius

Mauritian dances can be grouped into four major cultural streams:

- **European** – Ballroom, Classical
- **African** – Folk dances, African-influenced Segga
- **Indian** – Folk, Classical, Bollywood
- **Chinese** – Folk dances





Brief Introductions to Key Dance Forms

- 1. Sega** – A traditional dance, recognised as part of Mauritian identity. Uses hip movements, rhythmic footwork, and instruments like ravanne, maravanne, and triangle.
- 2. Kolattam** – An Indian folk dance performed with decorated sticks, symbolising joy and community spirit.
- 3. Bhojpuri Folk Dance** – Originating from Indian indentured labourers; lively, expressive movements showing celebration and resilience.
- 4. Jhakri Dance** – A folk dance performed in Bhojpuri communities, energetic and rhythmic.
- 5. Bollywood Dance** – Modern, colourful, expressive dance inspired by Hindi films.
- 6. Ramabhajanam** – A devotional ritual dance of Andhra Pradesh, practiced in Mauritius within cultural and temple settings.
- 7. Dragon Dance** – A traditional Chinese dance using a long dragon figure; performed during festivals and symbolises good luck and energy.
- 8. Lion Dance** – Another Chinese dance symbolising strength and prosperity; commonly performed during New Year celebrations.

Common dance forms of Malagasy and African origin:



Segga Dance



Segga Tambour of Rodrigues

Common folk and ritualistic dance forms from India



Kollattam from Tamil Nadu



Ramabhajanam from Andhra Pradesh



Bollywood Dance



Bhojpuri dance from Bihar (Geetgawai)



Jhakri from Maharashtra

Common Dance forms from China



Dragon Dance



Lion Dance

Main Indian Classical Dances Practised in Mauritius

- Bharatanatyam
- Kathak
- Kuchipudi

These forms are taught in Mauritius and performed during cultural events.

Common classical dance forms from India



Bharata Natyam
(From Tamil Nadu)



Kathak
(From Uttar Pradesh
and Rajasthan)



Kuchipudi
(From Andhra Pradesh)

Ask students:

- “What dance forms do you see at national events?”
 - “Which dance best represents your culture?”
- Explain the theme of patriotism through cultural appreciation.

Presentation - ‘Mauritius: A Cultural Mosaic’

Use diagrams and videos to show the four cultural roots of Mauritian dance. Briefly introduce the dance forms listed above.



Activity 1

Identify & Classify

Here are the links to various music clips.

Listen carefully and circle the correct genre.

1. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=szkgIb3FLDc&list=RDszkgIb3FLDc&start_radio=1

Clip 1: Sega Bhojpuri Reggae

2. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NQ4QsOedBHc&list=RDNQ4QsOedBHc&start_radio=1

Clip 2: Indian Classical Sega Fusion

3. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v5B4e79bmCs>

Clip 3: Bhojpuri Chinese Reggae



Activity 2

Learn Short Movement Patterns

Teacher demonstrates simple friendly movements:

- Sega basic side-step
- Kolattam stick tapping
- Bhojpuri hand and hip movements
- Bollywood expressive arm gestures
- Dragon/Lion dance posture and steps



Activity 3

Patriotism Through Movement

In groups, students create a 6-count movement sequence that includes:

1. One step from any Mauritian dance form (e.g., Sega, Bhojpuri, African-inspired folk, Classical Indian styles)
2. One gesture symbolising patriotism (heart shape, unity hands, ocean waves, rising sun)

To deepen cultural understanding and visual creativity, each group receives four small pieces of cloth in Red, Blue, Yellow, and Green, the colours of the Mauritian flag.

Students must be guided to integrate the cloth into their movement sequence.

Possible uses:

- Form a circle with the cloths to show unity.
- Use the blue cloth to create a wave motion representing the sea.
- Shape the red cloth into a heart to symbolise love for Mauritius.
- Place all cloths on the ground to create a flag formation before performing.



Mini Performances

Groups present their short sequences.
Teacher highlights cultural diversity and unity.



Assessment Criteria

- Identifies multiple Mauritian dance forms
- Recognises their cultural origins
- Performs basic steps correctly
- Demonstrates patriotic expression
- Works respectfully with group



Assessment Rubric

Criteria	Basic	Intermediate	Proficient
Knowledge of Dance Forms	Identifies 1-2	Identifies 3-4	Identifies many & explains origins
Movement Execution	Attempts steps	Performs with some rhythm	Clear, confident performance
Patriotism in Movement	Limited gestures	Shows some meaning	Creative, expressive, symbolic
Group Collaboration	Needs reminders	Participates well	Excellent teamwork



Extension Activity

"My Family Heritage Dance Story" – Students write or draw one dance connected to their own cultural background.



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