



BLUES IN THE SCHOOLS LESSON PLAN OUTLINES FOR ARTIST AND EDUCATORS

"TRY, TRUST and TRIUMPH"

By Fruteland Jackson

Lesson Plan Outlines for Artist and Educator

Reference these lesson plan outlines to expand or develop other areas of study.

Lesson Plan Outline Number 1

I. HISTORY OF THE BLUES

- A. Origin of the Blues (WEST AFRICAN CONNECTION)
- B. West African Griots
- C. Rituals and Taboos
- D. Field Hollers and Work Songs
- E. Minstrel Era
- F. Founding Fathers (W.C.HANDY, CHARLEY PATTON, ETC.)

Lesson Plan Outline Number 2

I. WHAT IS THE BLUES? (FORM, STRUCTURE, AND COMPOSITION)

- A. Structure of the Blues Verse (AAB)
- B. Musical Structure of the Blues (8/12 BARS)
- C. Blues Verse as Poetry
- D. Construction of a Blues Verse
- E. Composing Blues Songs
- F. Participating in Instrument Workshops (GUITAR, HARMONICA, ETC.)
- G. Call and Response structures

Lesson Plan Outline Number 3

I.THE BLUES IN AMERICA (REGIONALISM)

- A. The Mississippi Delta
- B. The East Texas Coast
- C. The Piedmont Region
- D. Founding Fathers of the Blues
- E. Chicago Style Blues
- F. Women in Blues

Lesson Plan Outline Number 4

I. BLUES RHYTHMS, STYLES, SHUFFLES, AND TURNAROUNDS

- A. Swing
- B. Ragtime Blues
- C. Shuffles
- D. Intros and Turnarounds
- E. Listening Sessions
- F. Blues Hybrids (rock and roll, jazz)

Lesson Plan Outline Number 5

I. HOW TO PERFORM THE BLUES

- A. Solo performers, Duos, and Bands
- B. Acoustic vs. Electric
- C. Vocals (BREATHING TECHNIQUES)
- D. What is a live performance
- E. Understanding audiences
- F. Practice, Rehearsals, and Playlists
- G. Care of your Instruments

LESSON PLAN OUTLINES CONTINUED

Lesson Plan Outline Number 6

I. PUTTING IT ALL TOGETHER

- A. The Blues Performance (as a ritual)
- B. The Roll of the Blues Performer
- C. Showcasing
- D. Book Reports/Journals
- E. Additional Studies

Note: Remove any lyric considered objectionable, inappropriate, or offensive to students, parents, teachers, or administrators,

