

Paul Taylor – Curriculum Connections: Performances and Workshops

Instructional Objectives:

The objectives achieved in Taylor's presentations to elementary/middle students are:

- To introduce students to the European migration to Australia through storytelling theater.
- To present Australian culture as it was in the founding of the country and as it is today through interactive songs and stories.
- To draw parallels between US history and Australian history.
- To introduce students to the culture and traditional stories, songs and dance of both European and Aboriginal Australia.
- To introduce students to the Aboriginal music, instruments and art.
- To explain the physics found in the sounds of traditional instruments and in the workings of the boomerang.

Curriculum Connections:

Geography – Australian geography; similarities and differences to US geography; the way land affects and determines the culture

Cultural Studies – Instruments, songs, stories, dance of European immigrants to Australia; instruments, stories, songs, dance, art of Aborigines in Australia; oral history preserved in story and song

History – Australian history; connections to US history; cause and effect of events between US and Australia

Art – Music; visual art in painting and instrument making; dance; oral history and storytelling

Age: Pre K- 8th grades

Learning Benchmarks

- Analyze and apply cause and effect relationships to a variety of historical issues, events and problems.
- Analyze and apply change and continuity relationships to a variety of historical issues, events, and problems.
- Interpret historical perspectives through personal, local, state, tribal, national, and global narratives.
- Analyze economic, social, physical and human migration, settlement, and distribution patterns.
- Locate and examine physical and human characteristics of places and regions, their impact on developing societies, and their connections and interdependence.
- Evaluate how human cooperation and competition for resources shape the earth's political, economic, physical, and social environments.
- Evaluate how technological developments, societal decisions, and personal practices influence the earth's sustainability.
- Examine the relationship between government and citizens to distinguish and evaluate the ways that civic participation occurs in local, state, tribal, national, and global

communities.

- Explain various perspectives on an event or issue and the reasoning behind them.
- Analyze characteristics, causes, and consequences of an event, issue, problem or phenomenon.

Residencies and Workshops:

Paul Taylor offers twelve different experiential workshops. Workshops range from folk dance of Australia including Aboriginal dance where students of any age can learn dance steps and traditions to making, painting and playing a didgeridoo which includes the history of the instrument and the painting, designing one's own story in the painting on the instrument, circular breathing and the physics of sound, playing and chanting. Also working with students on a "Caring for Country" mural, painted in the Aboriginal dot style and reflective of the history, geography and culture of the region they live in.