

Review by [Erin Brereton](#), Common Sense Education | Updated December 2013



Smithsonian Folkways

Subjects & skills >

Grades ⓘ

K-12

Text-centric world music site could use more activities, music

Visit website ↗

Common Sense says (See details)

Teachers say (2 Reviews)



Price: Free Platforms: Website

Take a look inside 5 images



Pros: Well-organized written and audio content can give kids a specific and big-picture view of some culturally based music genres.

Cons: Some songs are just brief audio samples, and interactive items are few: kids will need to do a lot of reading.

Bottom Line: Kids won't hear every tune in its entirety, but Smithsonian Folkways' resources can help them comprehend and appreciate cultural music.

How Can I Teach with This Tool?	What Is It?	Is It Good for Learning?
<p>You can use the site's magazine articles, artist bios, and other content as assignments to provide reading practice and background on world music. A few interactive elements, some of which are available in Spanish, also provide a look at topics like jazz and Latin music.</p> <p>The content, which features musical styles and songs from various cultures, can potentially be used in social studies or geography lessons, as well. Lesson plans are also available on the site for various age groups, including grades 3-5, 6-8, and 9-12.</p>		

Standards: [Common Core ELA](#)

Rating Details

Teacher Reviews

★★★★★ (See all 2 reviews)

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Featured review by [Ashley G.](#)

★★★★★



Classroom teacher
Geneva Kent Elementary School
Huntington, United States

Music History in various forms!

I love the website. The Smithsonian Institution does so well with their websites in general. Music history is a subject that isn't touched much in the elementary classroom but I try my best to make my students aware of music's past. This website gives me the opportunity to focus on specific parts of history, the various music of that part of history, and gives me lesson plan ideas as well. My students are learning more about music history than they ever thought existed! The main downside is that the ...

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Headquartered in San Francisco, with offices in Los Angeles, New York, and Washington, D.C.

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