



PUTUMAYO KIDS EDUCATION INTRODUCTION

Welcome to Putumayo Kids, the children's and educational division of Putumayo World Music. Since the release of the best-selling *World Playground* CD in 1999, Putumayo Kids has established itself as one of the leading children's record labels in the world. With its growing collection of CDs and resource materials, Putumayo Kids provides children, teachers and parents with upbeat, melodic and culturally authentic music, enhanced by educational multilingual liner notes. The CDs and activity kits have won numerous national awards, and regularly make the "Best of the Year" lists in educational and parenting magazines.

In response to an increased demand for multicultural educational materials, Putumayo Kids created a separate education division to develop curricula and education programs for elementary children from second through fourth grade, although the materials can easily be adapted for both younger and older children. Putumayo CDs, activity kits, videos and online resources are flexible teaching tools that offer ideas and materials to inspire classroom educators to use music from around the world. The materials also foster independent study at school, in after-school programs and at home.

With the increasing diversity in our communities and the interdependence of nations, world music provides a stimulating and rewarding way to discover other cultures. Introducing children to cultural studies through music provides a foundation to integrate social studies, reading, writing, vocabulary development, and the visual and performing arts in cross-curricular experiential lesson plans.

An interdisciplinary approach helps meet state and local standards across the curriculum. For example, several thematic strands in the curriculum framework from the National Council for Social Studies can be addressed. These include Culture; Time, Continuity and Change; People, Places and Environments; Individual Development and Identity; and Global Connections. The National Association for Music Education (MENC) states that, "Music is a basic expression of human culture; students should understand music in relation to history and culture."

With the universal language of world music, there are many options to develop a web of instructional strategies that address themes or essential questions. This type of flexible instruction can be tailored to an age-appropriate curriculum to meet the needs of different students and help them to achieve desired levels of skills, knowledge and understanding. Parents and caregivers can successfully adapt many of these same concepts and activities.

Through the exploration of world music, children and their families will value cultural diversity and see themselves as members of a shared global society. As an educator who uses Putumayo materials stated, "We try to use the windows and mirrors approach with our students – windows to look out at other cultures and mirrors to reflect their own culture."

As you travel the globe with Putumayo Kids, we hope that the journey leads to a wealth of discoveries that will inspire and enlighten you, your children and your community for years to come.



HOW TO USE PUTUMAYO KIDS IN YOUR SCHOOL OR AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAM

It's easy to incorporate Putumayo Kids in your school or after-school program! Travel the world with Putumayo Kids in your classroom with our collection of children's CDs that culturally engage students. In addition to our Putumayo Kids CDs, select titles from the adult Putumayo World Music collection have been specifically developed to be family friendly and educational.



Each Putumayo Kids CD has extensive liner notes that contain important educational information about the culture. In addition, Putumayo proudly presents our **free, downloadable Teaching Guides!** These streamlined, four-page Teaching Guides provide three activity-based lessons that connect geography, social studies and the arts with the songs on the albums. Currently, teaching guides for the **African Playground, Hawaiian Playground, and Brazilian Playground** CDs are available. Each guide provides lessons that facilitate activities involving movement and student response and are accompanied by a map of the region and downloadable song lyrics!

Purchase Putumayo Kids CDs at record, children's, gift and other specialty stores, or our Web site, www.putumayokids.com! Or, give us a call at **1-800-PUTUMAYO** to place your order today!



Putumayo Kids also offers **Multicultural Activity Kits** that accompany our **World Playground** and **Latin Playground** CDs. These kits can be used by elementary school teachers to facilitate activities that highlight the culture, language and customs of the countries where the songs come from. All kits feature a full-length CD, more than 50 activities, Sing-a-long lyrics, reproducible pages, "cut, color and paste" artwork and a children's Passport Journal. Classroom packs are available with 25 passports and a large world map. Both kits support National Standards. Recommended Ages: 5-9 years old.

Purchase Putumayo Kids Activity Kits and extra passports on our Web site, www.putumayokids.com, or at your local educational retailer! Or, give us a call at **1-800-PUTUMAYO** to place your order today!