



History of Music among the Inuit:

Inuit music is based on drums used in dance music and a vocal style *katajjaq* (Nunavut word) or throat singing. Eskimo music is Inuit - Yupik music; again most likely a Nunavut Inuktitut word.

Throat Singing:

Throat Singers in general take sounds from nature or their surroundings and reproduce the sound with their throat. Russia and Mangolian throat singers appear to be men, while Inuit throat singers are typically women. Women raising their families would reproduce these throat songs as a way of entertaining themselves. They would end up in a fit of the giggles as one would break their focus after staring face to face at the other with great intention.

Nunavik Women Throat Singers - Akinisie Sivuarapik, on the left in the video is from Puvirnitug!

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_Pyo_DLEnoU

On this video the women sing a lullaby and other songs with the throat.

Singers from Alaska

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DLMlkjYe0U>

Young Inuit girls, 12-14 years old, interviewed about throat singing in Ottawa

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pN4RXj4YSa0>

Katajjacoustic: an older teen, young twenties music, throat singing and electronic music

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fPI2dXcn8Vw>

Techniques of throat singing from different backgrounds.

[How to Throat Sing: 11 Steps \(with Pictures\) - wikiHow](https://www.wikihow.com/Throat-Sing) 

<https://www.wikihow.com/Throat-Sing>

How to learn throat singing at home: promotional video of a CD with some explanation of the connection with nature through throat singing and some technique.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aux_2FK50b4

Tuvan Throat Singing (young american? Explaining techniques of the method)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aux_2FK50b4

Masters of Tuvan Throat Singing

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ufG9S6X8FDM>

Mongolian Throat Singers

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bY1qYRhqh0>

Inuit Drum Dancers

Youth from Kuujjuaq Nunavik

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w74Rf6AnsxM&list=PL97AD19B39146C1EB&index=2>

Traditional Inuit Drum Dance

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ibS6URrwnRQ>

Inuvik Drummers and Dancers

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bdK3W1eykUA>

Muskrat Jamboree Drum Dancers

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=apMFtojQz5c>

<https://www.cbc.ca/arts/exhibitionists/this-hand-drumming-circle-is-a-beating-heart-in-toronto-s-kensington-market-1.4106356>

Very interesting project. Lots of good information historical information here.

Puvirnitug Snow Festival



Qisik - Reclaiming Seal Skin

On this occasion, different, exciting activities are put on, from snow sculpture contests to traditional games and competitions. In 2007, a five-metre-high polar bear made of snow marked the festivities.

In 2005, participants worked on a massive structure together: a giant igloo, 40 metres around and five metres high. More than 400 people entered it simultaneously. Every evening, music, dance and artistic performances are found at the community centre

Local Inuit Musicians as well as those from the neighbouring communities and Nunavut come to share their musical talents during the festival. Names as Beatrice Deer, Elisapi Isaac, Saali Keelan, Northern Haze, The Jerry Cans, Iqualuit Choir, Puvirnitug artist and many, many others join the fun!

This is a link to some pictures of the Snowfestival of 2013 where the theme was revitalizing the soap stone sculpture.

<https://pbase.com/jodephoto/festival4&page=8>

Website Research:

I browsed through the websites looking for material I could use in my teaching. I didn't get through them all but listed the songs and the ideas that interested me.

Dene Games NorthWest Territories

<http://denegames.ca/introduction/>

'aboriginal people around the world are losing their identity and culture, as a result of many influences; television, video games, music, changing attitudes, socio-economic issues and more importantly the loss of their language.'

Interesting website for games of the Dene peoples. Games were of the physical education type, although the use of the drums in the Hand Games to keep the beat was a nice thought.

• Holy Names Folk Song Collection

<http://kodaly.hnu.edu/collection.cfm>

Songs found on this website that have interest to me and the context in which I teach. Songs are often about nature, easily modified or translated into Inuktitut. **Songs are in hard copy, with analysis. Hopefully attached.**

Bye-Lo, Baby-o - lullaby

Chippewa Lullaby - Ojibway Lullaby

How Many Stars are Standing - lullaby

Charlie over the Ocean - game

Circle around the Zero - game

Bluebells - jump rope song

Bounce High - short repetitive song/ use ball

Billy Billy - repetitive words/dance

Courting Song - no lyrics ... recorder

Daddy Shot a Bear - Repetitive words

Crow Dance - repetitive words

Aka Backa - nonsense words

Looby Loo - know it in Inuktitut

Go Tell Aunt Rhodie ... not sure this appealed to me

London Bridge Not sure

Housekeeping - Inuit love tea

Lead through That Sugar and Tea - tea reference/game

Little Robin Redbreast - robins are seen in the village n

My Paddle - nature

Sea Shell - nature

Windy weather - nature/Translation Inuktitut

Frosty weather - nature/Same song

Listen to the Wind - Penny Mahoney/nature/Orff arrangement

I see the Moon - Nature

The Gray Goose - nature

Who Built the Ark - religious/numbers

Spanish Hand Clapping Games

<https://www.spanishplayground.net/spanish-hand-clapping-games/>

Chocolate - hand clapping game

Cathy Benedict - Kodaly Level II, 2018

<http://www.cathybenedict.com/summer-2018.html>

I chose two that would be of interest to the Inuit Students:

1. David's culture packet: some French songs usable for Grade 6 immersion
J'entends le moulin
Listening Lesson

2. Sabrina: <http://culturalengagementprojectsjc.weebly.com/>

Sabrina's website on indigenous music includes helpful hints on making contact with the indigenous people and their music.

I was happy to read this from Sabrina's project aims page: 'I learned that there is a major lack of trust among Indigenous people due to the westernization and commercialization today of Indigenous language, culture and traditions' This lack of trust has been apparent to me as well. I also agree with her when she says:

Vincent Bates website (Games, Ocarina arrangements)

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCLT1ccRL72zcvT0sstJKwxw>

I couldn't figure out what was going on here. Would be of interest to someone learning about the ocarina.

Kodaly II

https://www.youtube.com/user/drcbenedictFIU/videos?view_as=subscriber

Interesting to see ourselves perform.

Smithsonian

<https://folkways.si.edu/game-songs-of-french-canada/childrens/music/album/smithsonian>

French Canadian game songs! Usable things here.

Library and Archives Canada

<https://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/aboriginal-music-song/028012-2300-e.html>

Interesting to read that the flute has a history in the Arctic Tundra.

Conclusion:

There is really no conclusion. It is just the beginning. Doing this small amount of research, I realize how much I don't know. There are more questions, and few answers. I have gained a great deal of knowledge concerning the kind of things I could do with students in the schools where I work. I am attaching the file of songs I collected and analyzed from the website. I will include them with my song collection when I return home and I will begin to think differently about my own lesson planning.

Hopefully, I can encourage the students to believe in themselves and their abilities and talents.