

## Bridges, Walls, and Borders: Lessons with a Soundtrack

Element	Description
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Abstract (150 words maximum)	Our lessons relate to past and current issues of immigration while using music and other resources to help bring the subject to life.
Keywords or area(s) of focus	Ethnic diversity; current and past immigration issues; common ground on immigration issues
Objective(s) (if applicable)	**Identify ethnic diversity in present-day America **Identify issues in past and present-day immigration in America **Brainstorm common ground on immigration issues
Body of text	This presentation includes a power-point, movie excerpts, songs, map activity, and “class” participation. Here is the order of activity in the lesson: **Group brainstorming about issues related to immigration **Map activity with participants coloring on maps the places of origin for their families. We then reflect on the diversity. **Why did people come to America in 1961? Play the video of the song “America” from WEST SIDE STORY, emphasizing the lyrics of the women and men (women praising America while men criticize it.) Review questions on worksheet. **Listen to song “Immigration Man” by Graham Nash about problems he had coming through immigration in late 1960’s. Discuss “the story of this song”. **Listen to song “Across the Border” by Bruce Springsteen about current conflicts on border with Mexico and issues facing families. Again, discuss “the story of this song”. **Review list of other songs relating to immigration, refugees. **Brainstorm on “common ground”—items we all agree upon relating to immigration. An example might be: “Immigration

	<p>helped lead to a more diverse America.” A statement that would NOT be common ground would be: “America should build a wall on the southern border.” since many people do not agree with that.</p> <p>**Review the resources we have used and the importance of critical thinking brought out by them.</p> <p>**Review other resources from our book: THE HOT 100+ SONG ACTIVITIES: HOW TO TEACH SOCIAL STUDIES WITH MUSIC.</p> <p>**Brainstorm about other resources (songs, movies) that can be used in this lesson and other ways to address these issues.</p>
Resources (if applicable)	<p>**Our methodology book for Social Studies teachers: THE HOT 100+ SONG ACTIVITIES: HOW TO TEACH SOCIAL STUDIES WITH MUSIC</p> <p>**DVD of WEST SIDE STORY or online version</p> <p>**Songs found online: “Immigration Man” by Crosby and Nash; “Across the Border” by Bruce Springsteen</p>
References	<p>Wright, E., &amp; Failoni, J. (2017). The Hot 100+ Song Activities: How to Teach Social Studies with Music. On A Lighter Note Productions. ISBN-10: 1631102702 ISBN-13: 978-1631102707</p>