



Lithuanian Traditional Dances

Erasmus+ Strategic Partnerships for schools project

“MULTICULTURAL COMMUNICATION: BREAKING STEREOTYPES “

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Gargždų “Minijos” progimnazija

Lithuanians have always loved to dance

Young people gathered to dance in the fields in the summer, or in farmers' houses in the winter.

The oldest dances and games reflect human experience - life and work, customs, various processes work in the fields, hunting , fishing, domestic crafts , work implements , rituals of family and calendar holidays





Lithuanian folk choreography is classified into three groups:

- 1) rateliai (ring dances),
- 2) žaidimai (games),
- 3) šokiai (ordinary dances)

Link

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RFMqcq4J3uA>

The most popular dances in Lithuania: Oira, Malūnėlis (Windmill), Transveras.

Got interested?

Link <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RFMqcg4J3uA>

Watch

Enjoy

Learn

Ring dances

The number of participants in *rateliai* (ring dances) is unlimited and the dancers themselves sing the lyrics without any instrumental accompaniment.

Simply walking, the dancers perform various movements – simple movements repeated again and again: linking elbows and turning, weaving circles, and other figures

Rateliai (ring dances) have several forms: simple circles, double circles, rows, bridges, chains and gates



Lithuanians have a lot of games, which are played singing songs and dancing roundelays

Games are based on creative improvisation, spoken text or dialogue and the performance of tasks.

Žaidimai (games) are quite similar to rateliai.

Game "Jurgelis-master"

- Players go round in a circle and one of them (Jurgelis) stands in the middle. While walking around players sing:
„Jurgeli-meistrelī, mokyk savo vaikus. Jurgeli-meistrelī, mokyk savo vaikus“ (Jurgeli, the master, teach your children)
- Jurgelis shows some actions and players repeat his actions singing the words:
- „O, jūs, vaikai, kaip darykit kaip Jurgelis daro O, jūs, vaikai, taip darykit kaip Jurgelis daro“ (Children, let's do what Jurgelis does)
- After that Jurgelis is replaced by another player.



Link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dnQZD2SufVE>

Šokiai (dances) are accompanied by instrumental music and sometimes singing as well. Šokiai (dances) consist of repeated movements, steps and figures.

Learn to dance "Oira"!

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





- The pairs following each other form two circles.
- The boys are in the central circle, the girls are opposite forming the outside circle. They hold their hands and stamp their feet three times.
- They rise their right leg and touch each other two times singing Oira, Oira.
- Stamp feet three times. They rise their left leg and touch each other two times singing Oira, Oira.
- Stamp your feet three times. Touch your partner with your right shoulder singing Oira, Oira.
- Stamp your feet three times. Touch your partner with your left shoulder singing Oira, Oira.
- Stamp your feet three times. Stand together, hold your hands and touch your partner's thigh singing Oira, Oira.
- The girl moves round under the boy's arm and changes her partner.
- Start from the beginning.



We dance
“Malūnēlis” (Windmill)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Jl-sn5yKc_c

“Transveras”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=enKPCLaqU4Q>

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Jl-sn5yKc_c



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We like dancing!

Presentation prepared by Class 6d students