

Glamorgan TLC  
2018-2019

# All About Ukraine

Student Inquiry Guide

Part D

Grade 3: Communities of the World

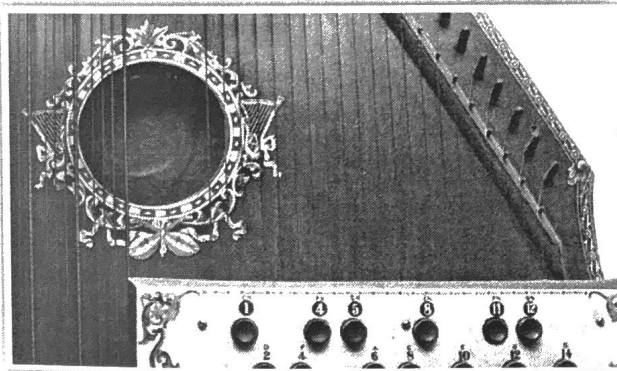
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# Ukraine's Music and Dance



Ukrainian people love to sing, dance to and play music during celebrations. Some Ukrainians play instruments that have been around for hundreds of years.

In Ukraine, people sing and play Ukrainian folk music that tells stories about their past. One popular instrument played is called the "bandura" and is Ukraine's national instrument. It has between 45 and 60 strings. The strings are plucked like a harp when played. Years ago, blind men played the "bandura". They were called "kobzars". While playing the bandura, a kobzar recited long poems about Ukraine's history. At one time, only men played the bandura but today women play it as well. This instrument is played during dances and in orchestras.



*Ukraine's national instrument is the bandura*

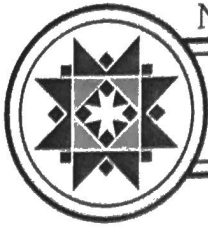
The "sopilka" is a Ukrainian instrument that is very much like a flute. The "trembita" is an instrument made out of a

hollowed-out birch tree trunk. It is about three meters long (10 feet). Its sound is soft, sad, and muffled and is often heard in the mountains of Ukraine. In the past, it was used to send messages between mountain villages. Today, it is played at funerals and folk festivals.

Dancing in Ukraine has been done for hundreds of years. These dances were done to celebrate the changing seasons, special occasions, marriages, and death. The dances are done to songs and ballads about the legends and history of Ukraine. Some dances are done slowly and sadly while others are done quickly with fast athletic movements.

The most famous Ukrainian dance is the "hopak". The music and dancers begin slowly and quietly. Gradually the music gets louder and faster making the dancers move quickly and use quicker actions. The men move to the front of the stage and begin to jump, leap in the air and kick out their feet to the quick beat of the music. This is a very exciting dance to watch!

Name: \_\_\_\_\_



# Ukraine's Music and Dance



Oh, how I love to watch the dancers leap, jump, and kick out their feet in the hopak! Ukraine's dancers are famous all over the world.

Explain the following Ukrainian words with good sentences.

1. bandura: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

2. sopilka: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

3. trembita: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

4. kobzar: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

5. hopak: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

6. Tell why you think music and dance has been very important to Ukrainian people.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## Ukrainian Folk Art



Ukrainian women spend hours of their time embroidering fancy designs on shirts, vests, and skirts. At Easter, many families decorate pysanky eggs.

People throughout the world recognize Ukrainian embroidery, weaving, ceramics, wood-carving, and decorated Easter eggs called pysanky. The Easter egg or pysanka comes from an ancient tradition that goes back four thousand years. Eggs were considered magical then because new life or food for people was contained inside. When eggs became pysanky they became more magical.



*Pysanky: decorated Easter eggs*

Decorated eggs were believed to bring on spring and the new growth of animals and crops. The eggs were decorated with symbols drawn in wax such as ears of wheat, grapes, rakes, chicks, rams, other farm animals, and the sun. Decorated eggs were buried in fields to pass on their magic to the earth and kept in homes to protect them.

When Ukrainians became Christians, pysanky took on a Christian meaning. They became Easter eggs. The four-spoked solar wheel that represented the sun became a cross. New symbols were added and pictures of churches were drawn on eggs as well as the words "Christ is risen".

Pysanky is a folk art that uses beeswax and dye to decorate eggs. In a Ukrainian home decorated eggs are made and given out to family and friends. Hot wax is applied to the egg using a tool called a "kistka" to draw a design on a plain white egg. These lines protect the white when the egg is dyed. When the designs to be white are completed, the egg is dipped into yellow dye and then dried. The kistka is used to draw the designs that are to remain yellow and then the egg is dipped into the next dye. The process of adding designs, dipping in a darker colored dye, and drying continues until the artist is satisfied. Then the egg is dipped into a black dye. Once the black dye is dry, the egg is held over the side of a candle flame to melt the wax. The wax is gently wiped off with a soft cloth. The last step is to seal the egg with a coating of shellac or varnish and set it on a board with nails to dry. When finished, there is a beautiful, multi-colored egg.

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# Ukrainian Folk Art

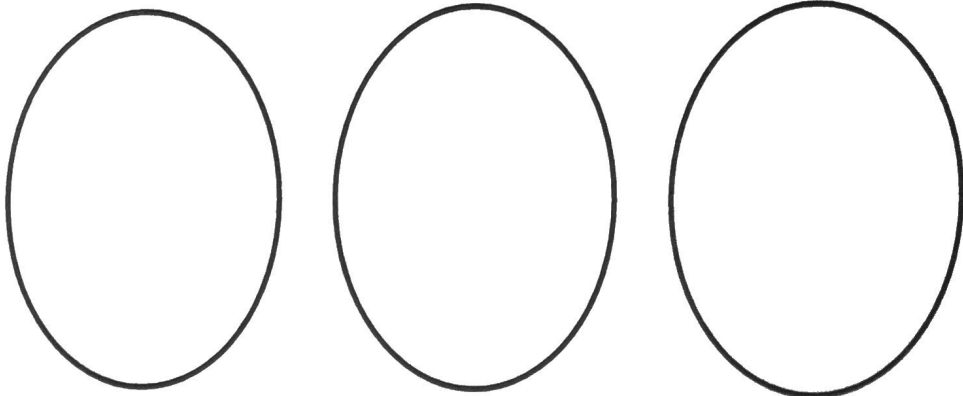


Before Easter my family is busy decorating eggs to give away to people who are our friends and relatives. Pysanky eggs must be done in certain steps.

1. Number the steps that tell how to make pysanky eggs in the correct order.

- \_\_\_\_\_ Dip the egg into the yellow dye and then let it dry.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Then dip the egg into a black dye and let it dry.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Now you have a beautiful, shiny, colorful egg called pysanky.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Hold the egg over the side of a candle flame to melt the wax.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Using the kistka and beeswax, put a design on the egg for the white lines.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Seal the egg with a coating of shellac or varnish.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Continue adding designs with the wax, dipping in darker colored dyes, and drying the egg, until it is the way that you want it to look.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Gently wipe off the melted wax with a soft cloth.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Use the kistka and make a design on the yellow parts of the egg and then dip it into the next dye.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Set the egg on a board with nails to dry.

2. On the empty ovals draw designs that you would put on Ukrainian pysanky.

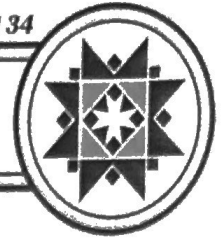


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Ukraine's History: Student Activity 34



# Ukraine's Past



For hundreds of years my country was ruled by many foreign powers. Ukraine borders many countries and people have traveled through it from Asia to Europe and between the Baltic Sea and the Black Sea. Ukraine was easily entered through the open steppe by wandering people and warriors.

Many groups of people have ruled Ukraine in the past. Research one of the following groups of people to find out interesting facts about it. Use reference books, encyclopedias, or the Internet to locate information.

- The Tripillians were Ukraine's first farmers and built their farms and villages on Ukraine's first steppe.
- Cimmerians were the first people to ride on horses in Ukraine.
- The Huns were the next group of people to control Ukraine.
- Scythian horsemen from the east controlled the steppe.
- Sarmatian horsemen came next to rule the steppe.
- The Slavs were a group of people who lived between the Carpathian Mountains and the Prypyat Mountains. They gradually moved east, west, and south and settled in what are now Ukraine, Russia, and Belarus.
- Kyivan Rus arrived in Ukraine in long rowboats. They used the Dnipro River as a trade route to the Black Sea.
- Tatars were invaders who destroyed the Kyivan Rus. They were the Mongols of the Golden Horde.
- Kozaks were Ukrainian peasants and nobles who rebelled against Polish rule and formed their own state on empty land.