



**MAKE ART
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ART ACTIVITY
INSTRUCTIONS:
**A JOURNEY THROUGH
THE AFRICAN DIASPORA**

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JOURNEY THROUGH THE AFRICAN DIASPORA

Discipline: Song & Rhythm

Duration: 15 minutes

Age Range: K - 5

Creator: Sumayya E. Diop

Contact:
integration@artscorps.org

Vocabulary:

Djembe
Fanga
Alaffia
Ase'
Wolof
Yaye
Sama
Call and Response

Learn a song and drum rhythm based on a collaboration of art and artists from Africa, the Caribbean and New York City. Sing in community with others and share your power.

Learning Goals:

- You will learn the cultural “call and response” song “Fanga Alafia Ase’ Ase.”
- You will reflect on what your personal power is.
- You will learn that when we sing, we change frequencies in our body!

My name is **Sister Sumayya**, and you can call me Sister Susu or Sama Yaye if you want. **Yaye** is Wolof for Mother. Wolof is a language of Senegal. **Sama** is Wolof for Sweet. To me, Africa is a way of life.

There is a saying that comes from Africa and it is a **call** and **response**. It is: “I am, because we are.”

What does that phrase mean to you?

When I say **I AM**, you respond **WE ARE**.

Sister Sumayya: I AM!

You: WE ARE!

Sister Sumayya: I AM!

You: WE ARE!

We are in community together, and together we’re going to learn and sing one of my favorite songs. What is your favorite song?



“Fanga Alaffia Ase’ Ase”

The song we’ll learn together is also a call and response. It is a collaboration from all over the world.

The drum rhythm, **fanga**, comes from Sierra Leone in Africa, the melody of the song comes from the American South, and the dancing is from the Caribbean. You can join the collaboration and make up your own dance!

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JOURNEY THROUGH THE AFRICAN DIASPORA

Discipline: Song & Rhythm **Here are the words:**

Duration: 15 minutes

Fanga: drum rhythm (Sierra Leone)

Alaffia: welcome (Nigeria)

Ase': power/so it is (Nigeria)

Age Range: K - 5

First, I sing, then you respond!

Creator: Sumayya E. Diop

Sister Sumayya: **Fanga alaffia, ase' ase'!**

(and you respond)

Contact:
integration@artscorps.org

You: **Fanga alaffia, ase' ase'!**

Vocabulary:

When you sing ase', can you share your power with the world through your dance? What is your personal power?

Djembe

Fanga

Alaffia

Ase'

Wolof

Yaye

Sama

Call and Response

Sister Sumayya dances and drums. You dance and sing!

Activity Closing: Now What?

Share the Fanga song with family, friends, neighbors, and community! Make a recording and share it with us by emailing us at integration@artscorps.org, or sending it to us on social media at @ArtsCorps.

Listen to the melody of "Lil Liza Jane" that the Fanga song is based on. Make up your own lyrics to a new song with the melody. What is giving and bringing YOU power during this time? Can you share it with the world through music and song?

What is your favorite song? Sister Sumayya's is "Fanga Alaffia Ase' Ase'." Can you teach your favorite song to a family, friend, or community member?

**CLICK HERE TO WATCH THE VIDEO
VERSION OF THIS LESSON.**

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