

Parallel Spaces

Akademi has received funding from the Department for International Development (DFID) through its **development awareness fund**, for Parallel Spaces, a new three-year education project.

Parallel Spaces aims to enable primary and secondary school pupils to gain a greater understanding of the effects of poverty and global interdependence on young people in Britain and the Indian subcontinent.

Through the creative use of South Asian dance and related art forms, the project will bring development issues vividly to life. Pupils views and perceptions, explored through storytelling, South Asian dance and music, will provide a starting point from which to address larger developmental issues. The project will also involve the provision of support and training in the form of INSET sessions to teachers interested in this area.

Project Objectives

- To develop curriculum linked creative arts work which focuses on South Asian dance, storytelling and music.
- To develop better understanding of global issues, amongst young people.
- To develop knowledge and understanding of social justice and equity.
- To create an awareness of young people in other countries and their access to education.
- To provide support and training for teachers so they can further develop the work.
- To develop an understanding for cultural diversity – through the use of South Asian dance and related art forms such as storytelling.

Project Outcomes

- School pupils to gain a greater understanding of the realities of global interdependence through the exploration of issues that touch their everyday lives.
- School pupils will be able to experience South Asian dance and related arts activities which will help with team building skills, co operation and awareness of others as well as giving pupils a sense of the wider world.
- The wider community to benefit from local schools taking a positive approach to a potentially diverse issue promoting greater understanding between different members of the community.
- Teachers will become more confident in teaching relevant and contemporary issues via key curriculum areas. They will be able to explore the use of arts subjects to teach these issues in an exciting and interesting way.

Beneficiaries

Primary and secondary school children (key stages 2 & 3). The project may also be run during after school hours in youth settings.

For more information or if you are interested in hosting this project in your school, please contact: Cristina Raschi, Education Coordinator, Akademi, Tel: 020 7691 3210, E mail: cristinaa@akademi.co.uk
