

EDUCATOR'S GUIDE

Fun and Games

Preparation

Overview and Objectives

This lesson is geared toward students with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Participants will learn about ways that sailors on board *Intrepid* decompressed and had fun when they were not working. They will be able to compare their own experiences to those of Navy sailors. Facilitators will encourage participants to think about the similarities and differences between life on board a Navy ship and life on land.

This lesson includes a [slideshow](#) in which an instructor can lead participants through an overview of fun activities on board *Intrepid*, a comparison of fun and games in the lives of sailors and those of participants, and an instrument-making activity.

Instructional Modalities

This activity was designed for both synchronous or asynchronous instruction.

For **synchronous instruction**, we recommend a platform that allows both for whole class discussion and for students to interact in small groups.

For **asynchronous adaptations**, we provide suggestions for teachers to provide additional support for the activities and for students to share their work with each other.

Materials

- [Fun and Games Slideshow](#)
- [Maraca Visual Instructions](#)
- Plastic egg
- Small beads, beans, or popcorn kernels
- Duct tape

Discussion Questions

How do we have fun together?

What is your favorite game to play?

Lesson

1. Introductory Activity

- Educator will introduce *Intrepid* and its environment. Work on board was often dangerous and exhausting. Life on the aircraft carrier was fast paced and sailors were often away from home for most of the year. They were away from their families, communities, and normal comforts.
- Participants will share ways that they have fun when they are not at work or school and compare them to things sailors did on *Intrepid*.
 - **What games or sports do you play in or out of school?**
 - **What do you do to enjoy yourself at home or with your friends?**
- Participants will then watch a 1-minute video about sports played on board *Intrepid*.
 - **Were there any similarities between the sports that the sailors on *Intrepid* played and sports that you watch or play?**
 - **Did you notice any differences?**

2. Core Activity

- Participants will explore some traditional Navy ways of having fun. Introduce participants to the concept of ports of call.
 - On *Intrepid's* cruises, particularly during the 1950s and 60s, the ship would often stop in foreign ports and allow sailors a period of liberty, or free time. On liberty, sailors could explore the city, town, or environment they were in. *Intrepid* visited countries all over the world.
- Show participants examples of Port of Call booklets. These booklets provided sailors with an overview of the place they were about to explore.
 - **What countries or cities are sailors able to explore with these port of call booklets?**
 - **Do you know anything about any of these places?**

- Introduce participants to Navy Tea Dances. When in port, *Intrepid* allowed its sailors to invite family, friends and guests on board for social dances. These were called Tea Dances.
 - **What dances do you know? Show the group!**

3. Wrap Up Activity

- Introduce participants to music in the Navy. Many Navy sailors were interested in music. *Intrepid* official bands and informal ones.
 - **Do you play an instrument?**
 - **What kind of music do you like listening to?**
- Participants will [build their own maracas](#) using a plastic egg, tape, and a small, dry material like beans, seeds, popcorn kernels or beads.
 - **Open the egg and fill one half with the dry material of your choice.**
 - **Close the egg and seal it with a thick tape, like duct tape.**
 - **Shake, shake, shake for music!**

Asynchronous Adaptation

Have participants go through the [slideshow](#) on their own and [create their own maracas](#).

Extension Activities

To deepen student engagement with this content, you may choose to add the following activities :

Learn to Swing Dance

At the Tea Dances hosted by *Intrepid* and other Navy ships in the 1940s, 50s, and 60s, most of the dancing didn't look like dancing we do today! Often sailors and their guests were swing dancing, as was in style at the time. Use the resources below to teach participants a basic rock step so they can swing dance just like the sailors on *Intrepid*. If participants have mobility considerations, you can sit on a seat and show how your torso would move back and forward during the rhythm of the dance.

Additional Resources/ References

Swing Dance resources:

[Learn How to Swing Dance!](#) DANCE at The Children's Museum of Indianapolis

Swing Dance Songs:

[Swing Out! 1940s Dancing](#)

[Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy](#)- The Andrews Sisters

[The Glenn Miller Orchestra](#)- (1941) In the Mood

The Museum is deeply grateful to the funders that make our education programs possible:



*This project was made possible in part by the
Institute of Museum and Library Services, Award ID:
CAGML-247144-OMLS-20*