Samba Name Song

By Stuart Brown

Samba is an exciting and very rhythmic type of music from Brazil in South America that is played during carnival.

Today we’re going to try making a samba song based on our names!

**Activity 1 – Clap your name**

First we’re going to try and clap our names.

For example “My name is Stuart” (you can use the teacher’s name instead of mine in these examples)

My name has two sounds (syllables): “Stu-art”

Let’s try and clap that together: “my name is “Stu-art”

Now you try! How many sounds (syllables) does your name have? Try and clap your name.

See if you can write your name under the blank white circles on the next page. Each circle is going to be one of the sounds from your name. How many circles does your name need? Once you’re sure, colour in that number of circles.

For example, the name Stu-art takes up two circles:

<p>| | | | | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>my name is</td>
<td>Stu art</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
How many sounds does your name have?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>my</th>
<th>name is</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Fill in that number of circles ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓

Write your name here ↑

Now try clapping and saying, “**my name is **……”

Hint: the number of claps will be the same as the number of circles.
Activity 2 - Sing your name

Now we’re going to work in groups of 3. Each person in each group will choose a different colour from the Brazilian flag below (green, yellow or blue).

Choose a colour from the Brazilian flag!

Green
Yellow
Blue

Make sure each person in your group chooses a different colour!

Now find your colour in the music on the next page and write your name underneath that colour. Do you remember how many circles your name had in the first activity? Colour in the same number of circles using the colour you have chosen. The first circle is already coloured in for you.
# Colour your Name

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name 1</th>
<th>my name is</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name 2</th>
<th>my name is</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name 3</th>
<th>my name is</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name 1</th>
<th>Name 2</th>
<th>Name 3</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>let's sing our names</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**Colour your Name**

**Sound Explorers**

**Drake Music Scotland Figurenotes Project: Figurenotes © Kaarlo Uusitalo, 1996; Figurenotes applications © Markku Kaikkonen and Kaarlo Uusitalo, 1998**
Sing the song

Now we’re going to sing along with the samba song
(Play the included mp3 track entitled “Samba Name Song”
A version without vocals is also included)

We’ll go round in a circle and sing our names one by one.

Child 1: “my name is .....”
Child 2: “my name is .....”
Child 3: “my name is .....”
Everyone: “let’s sing our names”

Now the whole class sing back the 3 names they’ve just heard:

Everyone: “your name is .....”
Everyone: “your name is .....”
Everyone: “your name is .....”
Everyone: “let’s sing our names”

Move on to the next group of 3 and repeat as above

*Teachers note: You can do this with just one group of 3 children or with several groups of 3. If there are not enough people in one group someone can sing their name more than once.
The whole song will go like this:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Red</th>
<th>Brown</th>
<th>Gray</th>
<th>Green</th>
<th>Red</th>
<th>Brown</th>
<th>Gray</th>
<th>Yellow</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>my</td>
<td>nameis</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>my</td>
<td>nameis</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>my</td>
<td>nameis</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>let's</td>
<td>sing</td>
<td>our</td>
<td>names</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>your</td>
<td>nameis</td>
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<td></td>
<td>let's</td>
<td>sing</td>
<td>our</td>
<td>names</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Activity 3 – Play your name

Now you have a note colour and a rhythm that matches your name you can try playing your name on an instrument.

- Find an instrument with Figurenotes stickers on it (keyboard, glockenspiel, xylophone, iPad with Thumbjam, etc).

- Find the note on that instrument that has the same colour of circle as the colour you chose for your name.

Now sing the song again along with the playalong track and when it gets to your turn try and play the coloured note you found as you sing your name.

Once you can do this try also playing the 3 coloured notes that go before your name ("my name is") to make a melody.

Sing the song again as a class along with the mp3 backing track and try and play your part on your instrument while you sing when it gets to your turn.

If you want an even harder challenge then try and learn to play the full song you have made using all 3 names in your group.