

CALL ME DANCER

Manish, a young street dancer from Mumbai, India, meets Yehuda, an older ballet teacher from Israel. Their friendship helps Manish follow his dream of becoming a professional dancer.



Driving Question: What does it mean to dream? What is the value of dreaming?

Themes

Following dreams

Friendship across cultures

Hard work

Family Support

Identity

Discussion Questions:

1. What is Manish's dream? What dreams do you have?

2. How are Manish and Yehuda different? How are they alike?

Name



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3. What helps Manish improve as a dancer? What's something you got better at through practice?

4. How do Manish's parents show they care, even when they disagree?

5. Why is the film called Call Me Dancer? What would you say: "Call me _____"?

6. What are the benefits of a creative practice (art, dance, poetry, etc.)?

Extended Learning Activities

- Call Me... Poster: Learners create their own identity statements by completing "Call me..." with words that describe who they are, what they love, or what they hope to become. Example: "Call me a helper, because I like to help my friends."
- Art project: Learners create a "What Makes Me Special" poster or drawing.
- Dream Web: Learners draw a dream/goal in the center of a large piece of paper and add bubbles with steps to reach their dream/goal.
- Learners should write a short essay about a time they tried something new.
- Learners will write a letter to Manish giving him advice about following his dream.

Additional Resources (hyperlinks for all underlined content below)

- [BalletMet Educational Resources](#)
- [Bharatanatyam: Introduction to Indian Classical Dance](#)
- [Bollywood Dance Explained \(BBC\)](#)
- [Bollywood Dance Overview](#)
- [Create and Dance Resources](#)
- [Elementary Creative Movement Activity](#)
- [Folk Dance Around the World: India \(BBC\)](#)
- [Get Inspired! Learn How to Bollywood Dance \(BBC\)](#)
- [India Kids: Favorite Resources for Elementary Students](#)
- [India Country Profile, National Geographic](#)
- [Library of Congress South Asian E-Resources](#)
- [South Asian Cultural and Linguistic Educational Resources](#)
- [Teaching Resources and Lessons Plans - South Asia](#)