



Clip: Salsa

Episode 14: Turning Pointes

Activity: Basic Salsa

Themes: Dance Styles, Dance Skills

Elements of dance: body, relationships

1. As a class, view the clip, *Salsa*, where Sammy teaches Salsa lessons to older members of the community. Discuss the origins of Salsa dancing and the different forms that this style of dance can take. Salsa is a pattern of six steps danced over eight counts of music.
2. Additionally, the class could view the film [Take the Lead](#). The film shows Antonio Banderas dancing the Tango and demonstrates to students the quality of the movement needed for this style of dance. (Be sure to check that the film rating and content is appropriate for your class).
3. Salsa dance routine: Select appropriate Salsa music to accompany the dance practice. Demonstrate basic Salsa movements. Divide the class into pairs and ask each pair to practice the steps and how to hold their partner. Basic Salsa movements are available at: [Learn to dance Salsa, Basic Steps for Beginners](#).
4. Record the practice session of each pair and play it back to them so that they can evaluate what they need to do to improve their dance skills.
5. Ask students to complete **Student Activity Sheet E14.1: Basic Salsa Steps**.
6. Have students write a journal entry, recalling the Salsa steps and using words that describe the feeling of the dance experience.

Download

- Student Activity Sheet E14.1: Basic Salsa Steps

Useful resources

- [Ausdance Factsheet 7, Safe dance floors](#)
- [Ausdance Factsheet 13, Safe spaces for dance](#)
- [Ausdance Factsheet 11, Producing a dance performance](#)
- Film: [Take the Lead](#), 2006 (USA)
- [David Letterman: Antonio Banderas and Marianne Hettinger Salsa](#)
- [Learn to Dance Salsa: Basic Steps for Beginners](#)
- [Salsa Dance Basic steps lesson](#)
- Suggested music artists: Isaac Delgado, Puerto Rican Power, Willy Chirino
- Learn to Salsa Dance Video Series, Vol 1: Salsa Dancing Guide for Beginners, Closed-captioned, Color, DVD, Full Screen, NTSC, 2004



NAME:

Student Activity Sheet: E14.1 Episode 14: Turning Pointes
Activity: Basic Clip: Salsa

Basic Salsa Steps

In the table on the following page, insert a still image from the video of you and your partner dancing into the left hand table and write the name of the step, plus a short description of it to the right of the image. Add a rating of up to 3 stars in the last column by colouring in the appropriate number of stars.

No star = very frustrating, couldn't do

1 star = found it hard but sometimes got it

2 stars = got it most of the time

3 stars = great! A breeze!

Image	Name of step	Step description	Star rating
			
			
			
			