



The arts integration company of

BERDOLÉ
FLAMENCO PRODUCTION

Literacy Activities
Flamenco: Europe and Latin America

Dance Activity

Creating a dance is easy in flamenco.

1. Study the elements of dance. How can these elements be manipulated to express an emotional idea?

Elements of dance:

Body

Action

Space

Time

Energy

Learn more online at <https://www.elementsofdance.org/>

2. Learn a few basic dance steps and arrange them in this order:

Salida: Entering step

Llamada: Call to action (calling in the Singer)

Marcaje: Quiet/quieter dance steps to mark time

Remate: Percussive/big dance step to mark the ending of the song

Salida: Exiting step



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3. Consider which steps should be:

Traveling vs. stationary

High vs. low in energy

Fast vs. slow in time

Facing the audience, a partner, the back, the exit, another direction

Loud vs. quiet

Big vs. subtle

Repeated or not repeated, and pattern of repetition based on rhythm, etc.

4. Arrange your steps based on the flamenco order and test the sequence with the music. Ask for feedback and revise as necessary. Learning and creating choreography is a means of gathering material that a dancer will eventually use to improvise.

Observe how non-verbal communication transmits emotional expression as you dance and evaluate dance.



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Dancing flamenco as an improvised art form is easy.

Work in a small group of 3-4 people, each person assume one role. Group members may take turns trying each role:

- Singer (1 person)
- Dancer (1 person)
- Palmeros/as (1 or more people)

Make sure each person knows what to do in his/her role:

- The singer should know how to sing one song letra (very short)
- The dancer should know how to dance 1 salida, (entrance) 1 llamada, 1 marcaje, 1 remate, and 1 salida (exit)
- The palmeros should know how to clap their hands and stomp their feet to create the rhythm for the selected song lyric.

Everyone works together to “play” with music, rather than reciting a choreography, using the following structure. It is common for group members to look at one another rather than the “audience” at times.

1. The palmeros begin the rhythm. This has to be the rhythm that goes with the song lyric.
2. The dancer enters and dances a llamada (the dancer chooses a llamada)
3. The singer begins singing, and the dancer begins a marcaje (the singer chooses the song lyric and the dancer chooses the marcaje)
4. When the singer ends the song lyric, the dancers performs the remate and makes an exit (the dancer chooses the remate and exit step)
5. The palmeros accent the ending of the remate and the exit.

Observe how non-verbal communication, teamwork, and leadership are used in the “play” of a flamenco song and dance.



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