

## Episode 18: Betty Bunheads

### Clip: Operation Scout

#### Activity: Learning a Skill

#### Theme: Dance Skills

#### Elements of dance: body, time

1. As a class, view the clip, *Operation Scout*. With the help of Kat, it is the time for auditioning for summer school at the National Academy of Dance. There are many examples of rivalry throughout this clip and episode. For example, Scout has a healthy appetite for competition and Abigail displays feelings of bitterness and meanness.
2. The learning of complex skills is difficult and requires the learning process to be broken down into small steps, building with more complexity as each stage is mastered. As a class, discuss examples of how they learnt to perform common everyday tasks such as how to read and write or play a sport. Reposition this discussion in the context of dance. Find students in the class who have trained or are self-trained in dance. Have these students relate their learning process about dance with the rest of the class.
3. Have the class perform a warm-up routine. Ask students trained in dance to volunteer to demonstrate a specific skill that they have mastered. Have them focus on demonstrating at least four different skills. The student demonstrating should instruct the class on how to perform the skill (which may be a movement, or a combination of movements, such as a *shuffle* from tap, a *pas de bourree* from ballet, a *barrel jump* from jazz or folk dance, a *grapevine* from bootscootin', a *step ball change* from Broadway Jazz). They should include in their teaching the timing of the step, the basic version, building up to the whole combination.
4. Have students document the movement/combination they learnt on the **Student Activity Sheet E18.2: Learning a Skill**, noting in their own way (images, arrows, stick figures, etc.) the breakdown of the step/combination and a reflection on learning the skill. (What was hard? How was the movement taught? What could the students have done as a learner - physically, mentally or behaviorally, to enhance the learning of the skill?)

### Download

- Student Activity Sheet E18.2: Learning a Skill
- Ausdance Factsheet: Fitness test for dance

### Useful resources

- Ausdance Video Segment 4 - Safe Warm Up, Basic Contemporary Dance.
- Ausdance Video Segment 7 - Positions of the feet and arms in ballet.
- Ausdance Video Segment 12 - Circassian Circle Dance.
- Ausdance Video Segment 13 -Ciuleandra Dance.
- [Ausdance Factsheet 16: Caring for the dancer's body](#)
- [Ausdance Factsheet 19: Fuelling the dancer](#)
- [Ausdance Factsheet 11: How to produce a dance performance](#)



NAME: .....

Student Activity Sheet: E18.2      Episode 18: Betty Bunheads  
Activity: Learning a Skill      Clip: Operation Scout

## Learning a Skill: Reflection

In the spaces provided here, notate the movements you learned today. Make this meaningful to you with images, words, arrows, stick figures, or anything that works for you. Provide further information where indicated in each of the boxes

Skill Name:

Skill Name:

Notation:

Notation:

Written description of this skill:

Written description of this skill:

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What was hard about learning this step?

What was hard about learning this step?

What could you have done differently to enhance your learning of this skill?

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