MINUET DANCE

Each pair of partners faces each other, holding Right hands Up in the air elegantly.

A section: 1-2-3-Touch, pick it UP, 1-2-3-Touch, pick it UP, 1-2-3-Tou-ou-ouch, Bow, turn around (2-3). Repeat.

The first 8 measures they walk around each other Clockwise (they start with the Left foot so that happens automatically for most kids). Then point your toe, just touching the toe to the floor, then Lift that toe so the next phrase begins with that foot (the opposite foot from when you started). For the second 8 measures, they switch hands and walk back around each other Counter-clockwise (starting with the Right foot). It's easier to show it than to do it.

B section: IN-tip-toe, OUT-tip-toe, IN-tip-toe, OUT-tip-toe, Walk around your partner and Bow, turn around, do it again. SCOOP-tip-toe, SCOOP-tip-toe etc.

Holding Right hands again (hold them up high), partners Balance: take a scooping step towards each other, rise onto toes and do 2 tiptoes (some kids make a little waltzing step out of it). That's one measure. Then scoop backwards away from each other - that's the 2nd measure. Repeat the balance In-2-3 and Out-2-3. Walk around your partner so you're trading places, then low bow (down-2-3, up-2-3). Repeat the whole thing.

A section repeat: same as first A, but instead of facing your partner, both lines face out to the audience, taking teeny-weeny steps, ending with a big bow to the audience.

(IF you were taking the repeat, the 2 long lines both facing the audience. Instead of trading places like a do-si-do, the back row steps forward and the front row backs up, so the 2 rows trade places.)

Mattie Banzhaf learned this at P.S. 95, Bronx, NY. It appears to be the New York City School System official minuet, bearing a very slight resemblance to the real minuet danced by the Bachs, George Washington, and others in the 18th century.