

Yankee Doodle / I Am a Minuteman

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Movement Idea

By Mary Donnelly

Primary Version

Formation: Two lines of couples, partners facing each other, boys in one line and girls in the other, about four feet apart. The lines have a head and a foot, with the head couple being the nearest the music source and the foot couple at the other end of the line.

Phrase 1: Boys' line moves three steps toward the girls and then clap partner's hands on beat four. They walk backward four steps to starting position.

Phrase 2: Girls repeat the above action.

Phrase 3: All students clap the beat as the head couple joins both hands and chassés down the center four steps and back four steps to place.

Phrase 4: All students continue to clap the beat as the head couple joins inside hands and skips eight steps down the center. They go to the end of the line and become the foot couple. On the eighth beat, both lines move sideways one step toward the music source. Now there is a new head couple.

Repeat as often as needed until each couple has had a turn to be the head couple.

Intermediate Version (with "Yankee Doodle")

Formation: Sets of six couples, partners facing each other, boys in one line and girls in the other, about four feet apart. Leave about a foot of space in between each person in the line. The lines have a head and a foot, with the head couple being the nearest the music source and the foot couple at the other end of the line.

Phrase 1: Stepping on the beat, partners move toward each other, do-si-do and walk backward to starting position.

Phrase 2: Stepping on the beat, partners walk forward, swing by the right elbow and walk back to place.

Phrase 3: All students clap the beat as the head couple joins both hands and chassés down the center four steps and back four steps to place.

Phrase 4: All students continue to clap the beat as the head couple joins inside hands and skips eight steps down the center. They go to the end of the line and become the foot couple. On the eighth beat, both lines move sideways one step toward the music source. Now there is a new head couple.

Repeat as often as needed until each couple has had a turn to be the head couple.