

## CELEBRATIONS: DANCE SONGS GR: 6-12 ( 5 LESSONS )

### Elder Quote/Belief:



“Dances tell stories of life, especially hunting, fishing and living off of the land. Dances are a fun, positive way to pass on traditional stories, opening up our soul and fills us with pride for our heritage. It just makes you feel good.”

—Mary Babic, Cordova



“As Joe danced before me, I envisioned the memories of so long ago, remembering as he and his grandfather traveled in a skin boat qayaq....” “Little did Joe Tanape know his keen observation, appreciation and respect of the seals would allow him to share his keen observation, appreciation and respect of the seals would allow him to share his dance to honor the seal....”

—Nancy Yeaton, Nanwalek

### Grade Level: 6-12

**Overview:** “Then two men begin beating drums, and others sing and shake rattles made of seabird beaks. A pair of performers hold paddles and wear masks of bent sticks, through which their painted faces can be seen. Men in masks perch on platforms near the ceiling, and dancers on the floor below move like hunters in search for the game. The performance ends, and another begins.”<sup>i</sup>

Singing and dancing are a very important component of the Chugach Region celebrations and has been a wonderful way to pass on and share traditional stories down through generations and with other surrounding neighbors.

### Standards:

<i>AK Cultural:</i>	<i>AK Content Science:</i>	<i>CRCC:</i>
<b>A3:</b> Students who meet this cultural standard are able to acquire and pass on the traditions of their community through oral and written history.	<b>F1:</b> Students who met the content standard should develop an understanding of the interrelationships among individuals, cultures. Societies, science, and technology.	<b>CE4:</b> Students should have knowledge of traditional dance attire.

**Lesson Goal:** To learn traditional songs and dances created to honor and respect Elders, ancestors, animals, birds and/or environment.

**Lesson Objective(s):** Students will:

- Learn and perform several traditional dances from their community/region.
- Learn the translations and meanings of the songs.

**Vocabulary Words:** Sugt'stun Dialects

English:	Prince William Sound:	Lower Cook Inlet:	<a href="#">Eyak:</a>
Dance	agnguahtua (I'm dancing)	agnguaq	<a href="#">gah</a>
Song		atuun	tsiiny
Story			wAXah

**Materials/Resources Needed:**

- Elder or Recognized Expert who can share the story in Sugt'stun/Eyak, and teach the song and dance that goes along with the story.
- A traditional drum and drum stick

**Books/Documents/Videos/Websites:**

- MP4 files of Chenega, Tatitlek and Nanwalek songs (Located on the Celebrations web page)
- Dance Songs Translated (Attached)
- Chenega Corporation Dancing [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6U\\_qN7g8SPA](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6U_qN7g8SPA)
- Peksulineq 2019- Tatitlek <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iTAFBR0QAso>
- Qikitaq (Bashful Eyes) Dance
- Qutekcak Native Tribe Dances Manual (Attached)
  - Qutekcak Video <https://youtu.be/tzK8wTLB7JA>
- Seal Dance
  - Aaron Meganack, Nanwalek <https://youtu.be/g-KJMBNgcbk>
  - Learn to Seal Dance <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H7x771gAhAQ>
- Tiluji – Kayak Song <https://youtu.be/NaBfZagBKU0>

**Additional resources:**

- Alaska Native Music and Dance in Culture and Education  
<https://lauraleek.atavist.com/alaska-native-music-and-dance-in-culture-and-education>
- Alutet – Songs <http://www.alutiiqlanguage.org/songs>
- Alutiiq Songbook  
<http://www.alutiiqlanguage.org/files/Alutiiq%20Songbook%20NO%20glossary.pdf>
- Imamsuat (People of the Sea) Sugpiaq Dance Group
  - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TOXXwG4MZbw>

**Teacher Preparation:**

- Locate an Elder or Recognized Expert who is willing to teach traditional Sugt'stun/Eyak songs and dances in classroom.
- Have water or tea for the Elder to drink during their visit to the classroom.

- Review social expectations with the class prior to the guest speaker (sitting respectfully listening to stories, waiting until the speaker has finished talking before asking questions, offering assistance/escorting when the speaker is leaving).
- Review the videos, pamphlets and MP4 files of different songs and dances prior to class. Practice.
- Make copies for each student of the song translations and step-by-step instructions to the dances as reference to follow along, learn and practice.

**Opening:** The festivals of the Chugach were social events to show respect of those animals who have given their lives to feed us, memorial celebrations for those who have passed on, celebration for rites of passage, and mostly

### **Activities:**

#### **Class I:**

1. If available, introduce the Elder or Recognized Expert who will teach the words for traditional songs and dances
2. Have the students follow along and practice the dance with the Elder or Recognized Expert.
3. If Elder unavailable, divide class into groups and assign each group of students to review the listed videos, pamphlets and MP4 files of different songs and dances to choose three dances they will learn, understand and be able to perform.
4. Other options would be for students to:
  - a. Interview and videotape an Elder or Recognized Expert they might know and ask them to teach 3 dances. Then bring back video interview to teach their group.
  - b. Share their own knowledge of traditional dances they were taught if had or currently participating in a dance group.

#### **Class II:**

1. Allow time for the students to listen carefully to the words and then practice singing along.
2. Pass out the song translations and the step-by-step photo instructions to each student.
3. Together practice each move with the word. Remember, moves are done two times, on each side.
4. As they learn the steps and words, remind them practice makes perfect. Practice the atuun/song and agnuaq/dance with the Elder's assistance and each other.

#### **Class III:**

1. Each group will make an instructional video of the three dances that include the translations and moves step-by-step and then performed altogether.
2. Optional- share videos with Chugachmiut Cultural Heritage Department to include on their YouTube channel and website for others to learn.

#### **Class IV:**

1. Class compiles their songs and dances (with instructions) into a booklet to share with others.
2. Optional- share the brochure with Chugachmiut Cultural Heritage Department to include in resources.

#### **Class V:**

1. Perform dances at a end of unit potluck!

**Assessment:**

- Students can perform several traditional dances from their community/region.
- Students can explain the translations and meanings of the songs performed.
- Students can correctly say the Sugt'stun/Eyak vocabulary words and words in the dance.

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<sup>1</sup> Crowell, Aron L., et.al. *Looking Both Ways*. University of Alaska Press, Fairbanks. 2001. Pp.189



Nanwalek Seal Dancers during 2010 Gathering in Homer, Photo provided by Pratt Museum

## Dance Songs Translated

A special “Thank You” goes to Maggie Totemoff and Mary A. Kompkoff for translating the words into Sugpiaq / Alutiiq. Written by Ian Angaiak from Chenega Bay

### Iksaq

Cugkam ikasang aqwayu  
Cugkam ikasang aqwayu amartuq taikatartut pitugkait ilavut ciqluput-llu igluku iqsaan  
aigaluku uatuaq piteskuma, yum,yum!  
pitelruana piturluku (alpetwa)

Hurry, get your hooks, there are fish coming, come and get some food for our family and elders. Cast out your lines and make a wish and hope you catch one. Yum.Yum. I got one and ate it. (I caught one)

### Macaq

Macam akiraten  
macam nagkuaria macam makacetakut asikamken angnuarluta wamuarluta pisurarluta  
cali

Our sun casts us our light. Our sun makes things grow. Our sun gives us warmth. We love you so we can go out and play and hunt once again.

### Bear(s) Out of Hybernation

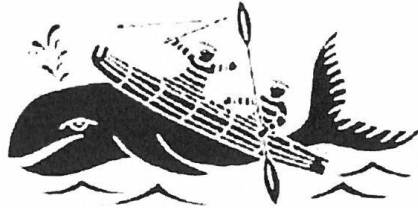
Written by students of Qutekcak Drum and Dance Group, Seward  
Translated Words by Mary A. Kompkoff of Chenega Bay and Susan LaBelle of Anchorage (Paluwik)

Tan'neleq iss'artuq  
Tan'nelit amartursurtut kuigmi  
Tan'nelit tegleluteng uqut'tiitut neneqait  
Piturtuq alagnarnek tan'neliq uksuarmi.  
Tuami sarr'ut uksumi.

Black bear comes out of hibernation and stretches  
Black bear comes out of hibernation and stretches  
Black bears are getting fish in the stream  
Black bears are feeding on honey bee's food  
The bears gather berries in fall  
They are sleeping in the winter



# Honoring our past




# Dancing to our future

**Qutekcak Native Tribe Dance and Drum Group**  
Seward, Alaska

Qutekcak Native Tribe Dance and Drum Group was formed at the request of the tribe's teen athletes who attended the World Eskimo-Indian Olympics in July 2003. After dancing with elders from other community's during invitationals at WEIO, the teens requested that the Qutekcak Tribal Council build a dance and drum group open to the entire community so they could dance with their own elders. The dance and drum group started practicing the next month. Each week our numbers and diversity have grown.

Qutekcak Native Tribe is a unique Alu'utiq community due to its location. Seward was the setting for the Jesse Lee Home and the Tuberculosis Hospital - both of which drew natives from all over Alaska, making our Alu'utiq tribe one of many heritages and cultures. Our elders are Yupik, Aleut, Inupiaq, Tlingit, Alu'utiq, Athabascan, and more. Each person brings to our group a piece of cultural heritage that when combined, makes us whole as a community.

The Qutekcak Native Tribe Dance and Drum Group is in the beginning stages. We are learning, singing, dancing, and building both a tangible and spiritual communal heritage. You can see by looking at our group today the hard work and native pride that has been put into this journey.

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www.qutekcaktribe.com

- Double click on icon for manual-

# Qutekcagmek: Map Song

DRUM: SINGLE BEAT 1-6, NO DRUM ON #7, END WITH THREE HARD BEATS

1) Qu/tek/cag/mek

*Ka too cheg a meck*



2) Qu/tek/cag/mek

*Ka too cheg a meck*

Sing first two lines standing still



3) A/lu'uti'ces/tun

*Ah lou tee stune*

Third line ~ pull arm back

4) Tia/yu/kut

*Tie goot*



Fourth line ~ complete motion

REPEAT LINES 1-4 (sing twice)

5) Ag/wa/a/lu/tu/hu, Ag/wa/a/lu/tu/hu

*Ag-wa a lou da hoo, Ag-wa a lou da hoo*



*Ag-wa a loud a hoo!*



*Ag-wa a loud a hoo!*

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6) I/tog/a/lu/tu,  
*I dohg a lou da,*



I/tog/a/lu/tu  
*I dohg a lou da*



7) Nu/nan/ik/sang/a/lu/tu  
*Noo nan ik sung a lou da*



Motions are done to final drumbeat count of three

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# Kangka': Wild Celery Song

DRUM: DOUBLE BEAT, SOFT/HARD

**Kangka' suhtukut, Kangka' suhtukut**  
*Gung ka suh doo guht, Gung ka suh doo guht*  
We're picking wild celery, We're picking wild celery

**Kegtuyat kegmahluta agwa kegtuhyaq!**  
*Keh do yut keh maga lou da a-gwa keh doh yuck!*  
Mosquitoes are biting us, go away mosquitoes!

**Kangka' suhtukut. Taici, pituhluta**  
*Gung ka suh doo guht. Tie jee pee doh a lou da*  
We're picking wild celery. Come let's go eat

**Kangka' suhtukut, Kangka' suhtukut**  
*Gung ka suh doo guht, Gung ka suh doo guht*  
We're picking wild celery, We're picking wild celery

**Kegtuyat kegmahluta agwa kegtuhyaq!**  
*Keh do yut keh maga lou da a-gwa keh doh yuck!*  
Mosquitoes are biting us, go away mosquitoes!

**Kangka' suhtukut. Taici, pituhluta**  
*Gung ka suh doo guht. Tie jee pee doh a lou da*  
We're picking wild celery. Come let's go eat

**Kangka' suhtukut, Kangka' suhtukut**  
*Gung ka suh doo guht, Gung ka suh doo guht*  
We're picking wild celery, We're picking wild celery

**Kegtuyat kegmahluta agwa kegtuhyaq!**  
*Keh do yut keh maga lou da a-gwa keh doh yuck!*  
Mosquitoes are biting us, go away mosquitoes!

**Kangka' suhtukut. Taici, pituhluta**  
*Gung ka suh doo guht. Tie jee pee doh a lou da*  
We're picking wild celery. Come let's go eat

**Taici, pituhluta!**  
*Tie jee pee doh a lou da!*  
Come let's go eat!

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# Kangk'aq: *Wild Celery*

DRUM: DOUBLE BEAT, SOFT/HARD

**x2** **Kangka' suhtukut**  
*Gung ka suh doo guht*  
We're picking wild celery



**Kegtuyat kegmahluta**  
*Keh do yut keh maga lou da*  
Mosquitoes are biting us



**Agwa kegtuhyaq!**  
*a-gwa keh doh yuck!*  
Go away mosquitoes!



**Kangka' suhtukut**  
*Gung ka suh doo guht*  
We're picking wild celery



**x2** **Taici, pituhluta**  
*Tie jee pee doh a lou da*  
Come let's go eat  
(sing twice on third round)



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# Tiluji: Kayak Song

DRUM: SINGLE BEAT ON RIM, HARD DRUM ON QWAS!

## Tiluji

*Tie lou jee*  
Come with me



## Quikuna

*Kaya kuna*  
On a kayak ride



## Wama Luji

*Wa ma lou jee*  
And we will shoot a bird



## Qwa! Qwa! Qwa! Qwa! Awhapeetwa!

*Qwa! Qwa! Qwa! Qwa!* I got one!



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# Alah-hay: *Sunshine*

DRUM: SINGLE BEAT ON RIM, DRUM ON TRIPLE REPEAT



x3

**Ala-hay, ala-hay, ala-hay, ala-hay, ala-ha, ha**  
*We are going to push the clouds away*



x3

**Ah-ne he, ah-ne he, ah ne, he ah ne, he ah ne he he**  
*So we can go swimming*



**Make the motion of diving**

**Weeeeeeeeeeee!**



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# Qalqanaq: Magpie

NO DRUMMING

## Qalqanat suktut

*Kusch-ga-nut sook-toot*

Magpies are proud



## Piliteni'teng aulukluki

*Pea-leet-needing a-luke-lou-gee*

They keep thier apron clean.



## Ahinaq assilkeluku

*Ahinuk asee key-lou-koo*

They don't like stink.



## Alla ai –

*Allah eye*

Gee wiz



## Alla ai –

*Allah eye*

gee wiz



## Alla ai!

*Allah eye*

gee wiz!



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# Iautanga: Raven Song

DRUM: SINGLE BEAT, 3 HARD ON YAHAAH, 3 HARD AFTER CHALEES

**Iautanga, aha-tanga, Iautanga, aha-tanga**  
*I ahh oo donga ah ha donga, I ahh oo donga ah ha donga*  
He's taking me, he's taking me, ha, ha, he's taking me

**Bawahu nunahu, umeahku**  
*Ba wa hoo Noo na hoo, Oo-me-ah-koo*  
In the air, over the land, and through the pine

**Bawahu nunahu, umeahku**  
*Ba wa hoo Noo na hoo, Oo-me-ah-koo*  
In the air, over the land, and through the pine

**Ya-ha-ha! Iautanga chalee!**  
*Yah-ha-ha! I-oh-donga-cha-lee!*

**Iautanga, aha-tanga, Iautanga, aha-tanga**  
*I ahh oo donga ah ha donga, I ahh oo donga ah ha donga*  
He's taking me, he's taking me, ha, ha, he's taking me

**Bawahu nunahu, umeahku**  
*Ba wa hoo Noo na hoo, Oo-me-ah-koo*  
In the air, over the land, and through the pine

**Bawahu nunahu, umeahku**  
*Ba wa hoo Noo na hoo, Oo-me-ah-koo*  
In the air, over the land, and through the pine

**Chalee! Chalee! Toma-chalee!**  
*Cha-lee! Cha-lee! Doma-cha-lee!*

**Weeeeeeeeeeeeeee!**



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# Iautanga: Raven Song

DRUM: SINGLE BEAT, 3 HARD ON YAHAAH, 3 HARD AFTER CHALEES

**x2** **Iautanga, aha-**  
*I ahh oo donga ah hah*  
 He's taking me, he's taking me



**Tanga**  
*donga*



**x2** **Bawahu, nunahu,**  
*Buh wa hoo new na hoo*  
 In the air, on the land



**umeahku**  
*oo me ah koo*  
 and through the pine



**Ya-ha-ha! Iautanga chalee!**  
*Yah-ha-ha! I-oh-donga-cha-lee!*



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**x2** **Iautanga, aha-**  
*I ahh oo donga ah hah*  
 He's taking me, he's taking me



**Tanga**  
*donga*



**x2** **Bawahu, nunahu,**  
*Buh wa hoo new na hoo*  
 In the air, on the land



**umeahku**  
*oo me ah koo*  
 and through the pine



**Chalee!**  
*Cha-lee!*



**Chalee!**  
*Cha-lee!*



**Toma-chalee!**  
*Doma-cha-lee!*



**Weeeeeeeeeeeeeee!**



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# Tanqik: *Moon song*

NO DRUMMING

## Tanqik anumauq.

*Dawn- kick a-new-mauq*  
The moon is out.



## Tanqik akihtuq.

*Dawn- kick a-gehch- took*  
The moon is bright.



## Cukaci

*Chew- ga- chee*  
Hurry up



## kankihyatuhluta.

*kahn- kihch- ya- do- hlou- da*  
let's go ice skating.



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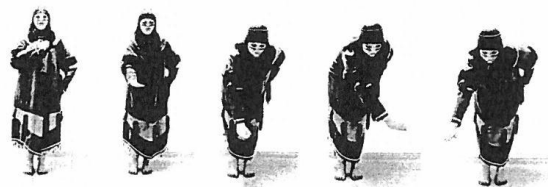
## Tanqim akihluni

*Dawn- kim a- gehch- a- looney*  
The moon will



## aguluta nanwamen

*a- ga- lou da non wamon.*  
lead us to the lake.



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# Agutak: *Eskimo Ice cream*

NO DRUMMING

Da da cook mama  
Hlou pea lee lou da  
Agoo duga muck



Whipping the agutak in a bowl with your hand

*Mom and Dad are making Eskimo ice cream*

Goo goo wan suckt a looney  
Nump ya a goo duck  
Pea dohga lou goo

*They call the baby over to take a bite,  
the baby eats it all*



Calling the baby over

Da da cook mama  
Hlou a lou dohga lou  
Oak chee goak cha gook

*So mom and dad have to lick the bowl clean*



Licking the bowl clean

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# Nugusta: *Lice Song*

DRUM: RIM BEAT ON EVERY SYLLABLE



## Neresta taarimallria

*Nugusta tah hemah hah*

Scrub and wash your hunter



## taaripiaguarluni

*da hape yah, waga lou knee*

Patting their back from top to bottom



## Ingqim yaamaat

*Inky ma-yah-macha*

## ciqiluki,

*gechlugee*

Throwing water on your hunter



## neresta atunguarualuki

*Nugustuk ug alah wuga looney*

Laughing at your hunter because he is soaked



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# Unuku: *Tonight, Tonight*

NO DRUMMING

This song is a game song. It is played with all the singers standing in a line. No drums are used with this song; the song leader sets the rhythm. The song is sung alternating between the Alutiiq words and the English words. You start the song off slowly and clearly, speeding up the tempo each time you start the Alutiiq words again. Each singer is his or her own judge. You sit down the first time you mess up a word, the tune, or the motions. The last one standing is the winner.

## Unukn, unuku taiciqua

Oo nu      oonu coco      Die jay kwah  
Tonight,      tonight      I will come



## Cai yungcunek tailluanga

chi you mah      Ka goo duga luck  
Bum a little tea from you



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**Piugtet, piugtet**  
*Bee youktah bee youktah*  
 Doggie, doggie,



if you are a girl



if you are a boy



**Qilukaatnga**  
*key loo gat-na*  
 barks at me



**Arularauyukllua pin'illkianga!**  
**Musca lada** **dun eh heck duga na!**  
 Boogeyman runs after me!



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# Guangkuta: *Exit Song*

DRUM: SINGLE BEAT, HARD BEAT LAST HOO HAH

**Gu/ang/ku/ta**  
*Wong koo duh*

**Qu/tek/cag/miut**  
*Cuh two cheg mute*

**Hoo Hah!**

**Standing (on stage) Exit Song ~ sing song three (3) times**



Guangkuta



Qutekcagmuit



Hooah!



**Walking Exit Song ~ sing song till out of sight of audience**



Guangkuta



Qutekcagmuit



Hooah!



Guangkuta



Qutekcagmuit



Hooah!

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## Qikitaq (Bashful Eyes)

Traditional “Bashful” song. Transcription by Alisha Drabek

Gui gwani. Gui gwani. Qikitaq. Qikitaq.  
I am here. I am here. Bashful. Bashful.

Gui gwani. Gui gwani. Qikitaq. Qikitaq.  
I am here. I am here. Bashful. Bashful.

Ikani. Ikani. Qikitaq. Qikitaq.  
Over there. Over there. Bashful. Bashful.

Ikani. Ikani. Qikitaq. Qikitaq.  
Over there. Over there. Bashful. Bashful.

Ikani, Cali. Guangkuta. Guangkuta.  
Over there. Also. All of us. All of us

Qikitaq. Qikitaq. Iingalak. Iingalak.  
Bashful. Bashful. Eyes. Eyes.

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### Qikitaq (Bashful Eyes) Step-by-Step Moves



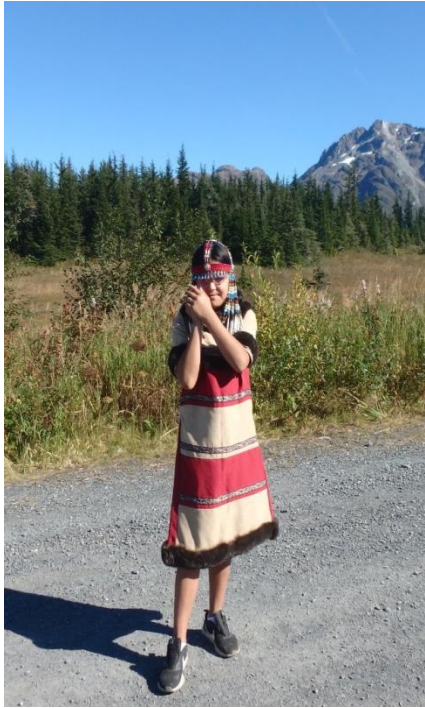
#### **GuiGwani (I am here)**

Extend one hand out and keep other hand to chest.



#### **GuiGwani (I am here)**

Switch, extend the other hand out and other hand to chest.



**Qikitaq (Bashful)**  
Cover your eyes and move side to side



**Qikitaq (Bashful)**  
Repeat other side



**Ikani (Over there) Cali (Also)**  
**Guangkuta (All of us)** -do 2 times  
Motion your right arm out two times



**Ikani (Over there) Qikitaq (Bashful)**  
-do 2 times  
Motion your left arm out two times