

# TODDLER COMBO CLASS

TAP • BALLET • GYMNASTICS

Our goal is to provide a fun introductory dance class to pre-school aged children in a positive and healthy environment.



## HELPFUL HINTS FOR PARENTS

1



**Be on time.** We know this may not happen all the time with little ones. The benefit of your child arriving on time is to diminish any nerves or attachment anxiety. Teachers will invite all kids to enter at the same time and be greeted together. The teacher will talk to each dancer, help them find their dance spot, and begin the first dance warm up which acts as an "ice breaker". Sometimes if a child comes in after this it can be harder for them to adjust and join a class already in session.

2



**Dress Code:** Leotard (no skirt attached preferred), tights w/ tap and ballet shoes and hair in a bun.

**Dancers should bring a dance bag for dance shoes.**

3



**Do not enter a class in session unless very necessary.** We understand the need to enter the class and speak with our dancer to "check in" or correct behavior. Unfortunately, this does trigger other dancers as well as break the focus the teacher works hard for. All teachers are trained to bring out your dancer if needed to "take a break". We know that sometimes we just need a little break to reset, and with our little ones it's no different. In this event, the teacher will again get your dancer on break and invite them back in the class. If your dancer is unwilling to rejoin the class, the teacher will continue to invite them throughout the remainder of the class.

4



**Always stay to the end of class.** Combo age dancers depend on structure and understand patterns. We highly suggest keeping the pattern of start and end time even if your dancer is having an "off" day. This way they will learn they always stay to the end. At the end of every class all dancers receive a sticker. This is every dancer's reward for completing the class.

5



**It's OK!** Here at On Pointe we understand every child is different and unique in their needs as growing dancers. Sometimes little ones have bad days and that's OK. It is not unusual or a failure if your dancer needs a break or has trouble in class sometimes. On Pointe teachers are very well prepared in helping along our youngest dancers.

## TAP / BALLET / GYMNASTICS CLASS LAYOUT

### TAP

- Start with tap (dancers should come into class with tap shoes on and ballet shoes in their dance bag)
- Warm up in center
- Tap technique in center/ across the floor
  - Tapping toes to the front, side, and back
  - Add Heels, toe backs
  - Shuffles
  - Side together side dig
  - Maxi Ford
  - Paradiddles
  - Irish Step
  - Flap, flap heel
- Marches/ work on rhythm



### BALLET

- Change into ballet shoes (teachers will help, but dancers will learn how to change shoes on their own)
- In a circle go over 1st and 2nd position.
  - Plié
  - Éleve, Releve
  - Tendu
  - Pique
  - Passe
  - Arabesque
  - Chasse
- Stretch & Technique in circle
- Technique across the floor



Ballet portion begins to incorporate Ballet 1 technique

### GYMNASTICS (ACRO)

- Dancers will keep ballet shoes on for this portion of class
- Across the Mat.
  - Crab Walks
  - Bear Crawls
  - Frog Jumps
- Practicing hand stands and candlestick



We follow the Acrobatic Arts Preschool Dance Syllabus



### IMAGINATIVE PLAY

Freeze dance and stamps/stickers!

