



LET'S  
DANCE

## PAUTA SAILA'S *DANCING BEAR*

Pauta Sails is known for his dancing bear sculptures. The stones he used are heavy, but his bears look light and graceful.

### ABOUT PAUTA SAILA

"I like to carve what I feel, not merely what I see." —Pauta Sails

Inuit artist Pauta Sails (1916–2009) is best known for his series of dancing bear sculptures. Soapstone was his favourite material to work with. Although Sails was also a skilled hunter, he focused his work in the early 1980s on carving.

Pauta Sails, *Dancing Bear*, 1984. Mottled dark grey stone, ivory, 51.2 x 38.8 x 22.8 cm.  
Gift of Samuel and Esther Sarick, Toronto, 2001. © Estate of Pauta Sails, courtesy Dorset Fine Arts. 2001/331.

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## ACTIVITY



### STRIKE A POSE

With friends or family, play some music that makes you feel like dancing. After a few seconds, pause the music and pose like this bear. For fun, see how long you can stay in that position. Repeat! Draw your pose.

### QUESTIONS

Pauta Saila said he likes to carve what he feels, not just what he sees. How do you feel right now? What three colours would you use to describe that feeling? Why?



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