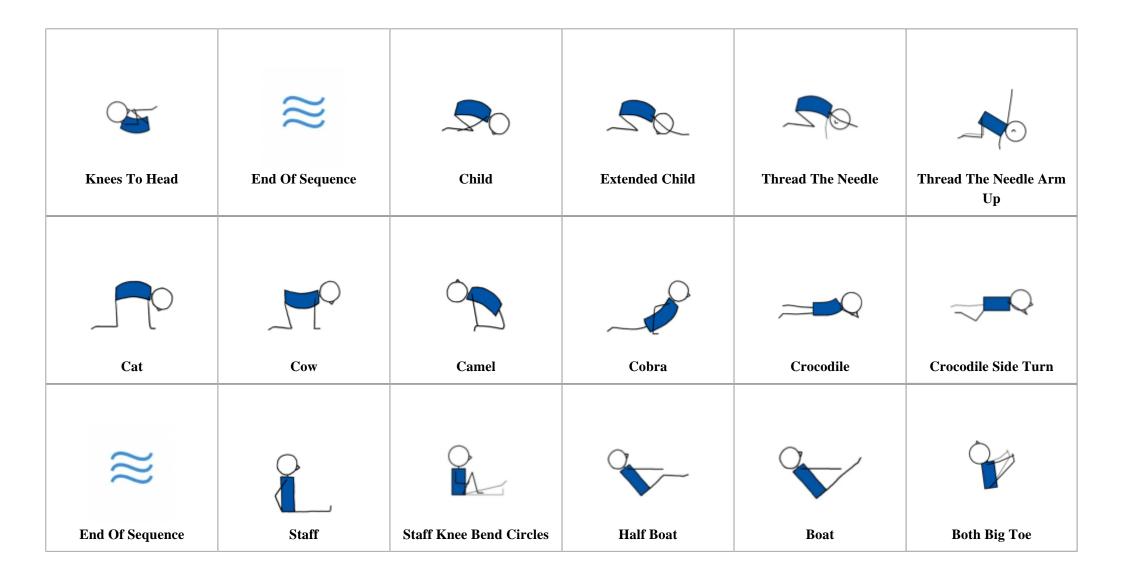
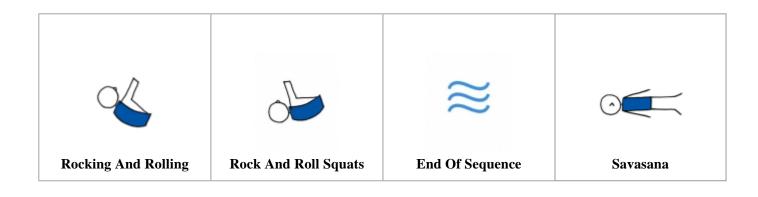
# **Seated & Floor: Thread The Needle Peak Pose**

Bound Angle	Ankle Bending	Ankle Rotation	Archer	End Of Sequence	Confidence
Butterfly Twist	Cow Face	Bound Lotus	Cradle Baby	Bharadvajasana Twist	Bharadvajasana I
End Of Sequence	Book Opening	Cat Pulling Tail	Bananasana	Bridge	Knees To Chest





## **Lesson Plan Description:**

### Overview

This is a Yin seated and floor themed lesson plan with thread the needle as the peak pose. Thread the Needle Pose is a shoulder-releasing yoga posture that is suitable for all students, including beginners. If you have stiffness and pain in your back, shoulders, or neck, this pose can provide relief. Thread the Needle offers variations to suit your level of flexibility.

## **Benefits of Thread The Needle Pose**

Thread the needle pose, while complicated to get into, can give you a great stretch through the chest and shoulders. It also requires a gentle twisting motion that can help stretch and loosen the muscles in the low back. If you are dealing with chronic shoulder or back pain, this posture can help gently loosen the muscles and relieve tension.

It stretches and opens the shoulders, chest, arms, upper back, and neck.

It releases the tension that is commonly held in the upper back and between the shoulder blades.-

It provides a mild twist to the spine, which further reduces tension.

Practicing the pose with hips on heels will stretch hips, thighs, and lower back.

#### **Modifications & Variations**

Since Thread the Needle is a calming position, it's important to make whatever modifications you need to feel comfortable, safe, and supported in the pose.

To lighten or deepen the intensity of the pose, try these simple changes:

If knee caps hurt, fold mat-or place a firm blanket under knees.

If your wrists hurt in the starting position, place forearms on floor.

Place forearms on a-bolster-or stack of firm blankets to lift torso more upright. This variation is useful for women who are pregnant. Rest ear on bolster and let your threaded arm drop toward the floor.

For a deeper shoulder stretch, come into the full pose. Then, bring the lower arm of the elbow that is bent (the arm that is not doing the "threading") behind your body and rest the back of that hand on your low back. Your lower arm should remain on the floor with your palm facing up.

# Those with larger chests or stomachs, and women who are pregnant, can practice this pose at a wall, while standing:

- 1. Face wall standing arm's distance away.
- 2. Press palms flat against the wall.
- 3. Slide right arm beneath left arm.
- 4. Bring right shoulder and ear to the wall.
- 5. Hold for up to one minute.
- 6. Repeat on opposite side.