

# Index: Singing Games Children Love

## Volume 2

### **Make up an Action:**

1. Oliver Twist
2. Jim Along Josie
3. Hokey Pokey
4. Looby Loo
5. Ring Around the Rosie
6. This Way Thataway
7. Hop Old Squirrel
8. Goin' to Kentucky
9. Punchinello
10. Hey Betty Martin

### **Clapping Games:**

11. Hot Cross Buns
12. Pease Porridge Hot
13. In the Land of Oz
14. My Landlord
15. Head & Shoulders Baby
16. Eatin' Betty Crocker
17. Miss Mary Mac
18. Ronald McDonald
19. Long Legged Sailor
20. Green Sally Up
21. I've Been to London
22. I'm a Canadian
23. A Sailor Went to Sea

### **Stick Games:**

24. Sarasponda

### **Add an Action:**

25. Button Factory

26. My Aunt Came Back
27. Father Abraham
28. One Finger One Thumb
29. Topnotcher

### **Other:**

30. Un, Deux, Trois
31. The Mill
32. Happy is the Miller
33. Pass the Shoe
34. London Bridge
35. Draw a Bucket of Water
36. Stella Ella Olla
37. Tideo
38. Paw Paw Patch

### **Movement Rounds:**

39. Frère Jacques
40. Little Tommy Tinker
41. Swedish Action Song

### **Just for Fun:**

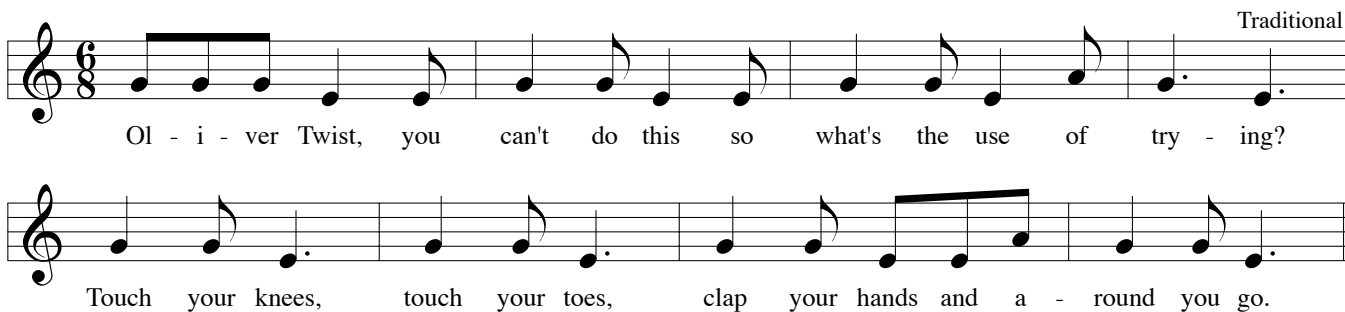
42. Bounce High
43. Bell Horses
44. Pizza Pizza

### **Choral Warmups & Shakeups:**

45. Tony Chestnut
46. Ham and Eggs
47. Bingo
48. I'm Downright Upright
49. George Washington Bridge
50. We Love to Sing

# 1. Oliver Twist

Traditional

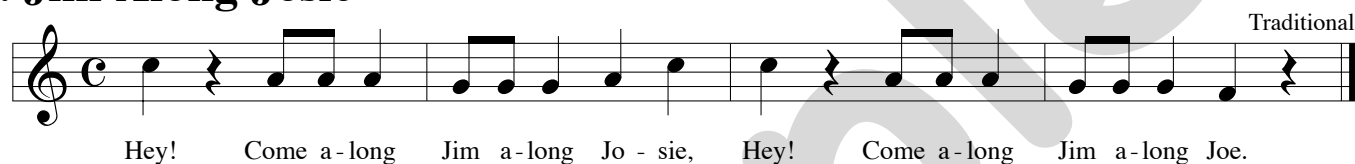


Ol - i - ver Twist, you can't do this so what's the use of try - ing?  
 Touch your knees, touch your toes, clap your hands and a - round you go.

**Directions:** This is a traditional ball bouncing game. I've adapted it for classroom use by having one child in the middle make up an action that children have to perform while touching knees, toes, clapping hands and turning around. e.g. jump and sing the song. When you get to "touch your knees," do it while jumping.

# 2. Jim Along Josie

Traditional



Hey! Come a-long Jim a-long Jo - sie, Hey! Come a-long Jim a-long Joe.

2. Hey! Run along, run along Josie. Hey! Run along, run along, Joe.
3. Hey! Hop along, hop along Josie. Hey! Hop along, hop along Joe.
4. Hey! Skip along, skip along Josie. Hey! Skip along, skip along Joe.

**Directions:** Children move freely around the classroom as they sing. Ask the children to make up new verses, and then the children move according to the verse they have made up.

# 3. Hokey Pokey

Traditional



You put your right hand in. You put your right hand out. You put your  
 right hand in and you shake it all a - bout. You do the ho - key po - key and you  
 turn your-self a-round, and that's what it's all a - bout!

2. left hand 3. right leg 4. left leg 5. right hip 6. left hip 7. head 8. whole self

**Directions:** All children form a single circle.

Measures 1-3: You put your right...  
 Measure 4: shake it all about  
 Measure 5-6: do the hokey pokey  
 Measure 7: that's what it's all about

put right hand in and out as the words indicate  
 shake your hands  
 wave both hands in the air while you turn yourself in a circle  
 clap five times and jump up at the end

## 6. This Way Thataway

Traditional

This way that - a-way. This way that - a-way. This way that - a-way all day long.

Here comes Da - vid strut - tin' a - long. Here comes Da - vid strut - tin' a - long.

Here comes a-noth - er one just like the oth - er one. Here comes a-noth - er one all day long.

The musical notation consists of three staves of music in treble clef with a common time signature (C). The melody is simple and repetitive, with lyrics written below the notes.

**Directions:** Form 2 lines with partners facing each other. On the words “This way thataway” partners jive with each other. When you sing “Here comes David”, David, one of the head pair makes up an action as he struts down the alley. On the words “Here comes another one,” his partner comes down the alley making up an action. It can be the same action or it can be different. Continue the game until everyone has had a turn. The students may be shy at first, but this is a class favorite once they know it.

## 7. Hop Old Squirrel

Traditional

Hop old squirrel, ei - dle-dum, ei - dle-dum. Hop old squirrel, ei - dle-dum dee.

Hop old squirrel, ei - dle-dum, ei - dle-dum. Hop old squirrel, ei - dle dum dee.

The musical notation consists of two staves of music in treble clef with a common time signature (C). The melody is simple and repetitive, with lyrics written below the notes.

2. no voices on the CD - make up your own action. eg. run old squirrel
3. fly old squirrel

**Directions:** Begin by having children hop freely to the beat as they sing the song. Ask the children how else the squirrel might move. Repeat the song, changing the action to what the children suggest.

An interesting variation is used by Elaine Anderson of Red Deer in her kindergarten classes. Instead of the words “eidledum eidledum,” she uses the words “listen listen” and freezes in place. No one is allowed to move until the teacher moves. This helps children to learn that “listen” means to freeze. They must watch AND listen.

# 13. In the Land of Oz

Traditional

LD LD LU LU cl cl both both

In the Land of Oz where the la - dies smoke ci - gars,

2. Every puff they take is enough to kill a snake.
3. When the snakes are dead, they put roses on their heads.
4. When the roses die, they put diamonds in their eyes.
5. When the diamonds break, it is 1998!

**Directions:** This is a clapping game for two people. The directions are given above the song. Each person starts with left hand down (LD) and right hand up. My partner's right hand will be under my left. My partner's left hand will be over my right. My left hand will clap down (LD LD) and my right will clap up. Do this twice. Then repeat reversing hands with your partner. Your left hand will now be up. (LU LU) Next clap your own hands twice (cl cl), and then clap both your partner's hands twice. (both both) This pattern repeats until the end of song. Be sure to begin the clapping pattern on the word "land". Be sure to discuss with the students why they should not smoke cigars. Have them make a list of reasons telling why smoking is unhealthy.

# 14. My Landlord

Traditional

My land - lord rang the front door - bell. I let it ring for a  
 long, long spell. I went to the win - dow. I peeked out the blind. I  
 asked that man what was on his mind. He said, "Mon - ey hon - ey,  
 oo oo oo ee." He said, "Mon - ey hon - ey, oo oo oo ee. If you  
 want to get a - long with me, If you want to get a - long with me."

**Directions:** This is a clapping game for two people. The clapping pattern is eight beats long and repeats until the end of the song. Begin the pattern on beat one of the first complete measure.

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| Beat 1: clap own hands                     | Beat 5: clap own hands                         |
| Beat 2: clap right hands with your partner | Beat 6: clap both hands with your partner      |
| Beat 3: clap own hands                     | Beat 7: cross your own hands on your shoulders |
| Beat 4: clap left hands with your partner  | Beat 8: pat your own thighs                    |

### 33. Pass the Shoe

Traditional

I will pass this shoe from me to you, to you. You  
pass the shoe and do just what I do.

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and common time. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of lyrics, and the second staff contains the melody for the second line. The notes are simple, mostly quarter and eighth notes, with some beamed eighth notes.

**Directions:** Pick up and pass a shoe to the beat while you sing the song. Pick up the shoe on the weak beats and place the shoe in front of the person on your right on the strong beats. Begin with only one shoe. When students are proficient at picking up and passing on weak and strong beats, add shoes to the game. Each time you try the game, try it with more shoes being passed, until you can pass one shoe for every player!

You may want to try this game with cups instead of shoes. If you begin the game with a pile of cups in front of you and pass them one at a time, the children are better able to pass in the correct direction than if you hand out 25 cups and ask them to begin passing them. You may want to try some variations in the passing pattern. For example: pick up, hit the cup twice on the floor, pass the cup.

### 34. London Bridge is Falling Down

Traditional

Lon - don Bridge is fall - ling down, fal - ling down, fal - ling down,  
Lon - don Bridge is fal - ling down, my fair la - dy oh.

The image shows two staves of musical notation in C major and common time. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of lyrics, and the second staff contains the melody for the second line. The notes are simple, mostly quarter and eighth notes, with some beamed eighth notes.

2. Build it up with sticks and stones ...
3. Take the key and lock her up ...

**Directions:** Two children join hands and form an arch. They secretly decide who is silver and who is gold. The other children form a single line to walk through the arch during the singing of the verses. At the end of each verse, on the words “my fair lady,” the bridge falls and captures a prisoner. The bridge gently sways the prisoner back and forth. At the end of the chorus, the prisoner is secretly asked if he wants to pay with silver or gold. The prisoner then stands behind the child representing his choice. When all children have been captured, a tug of war between “gold” and “silver” ends the game.

**Variation:** Each verse, capture a child. Each child captured forms another arch, either with the teacher or with another student. The game continues until there are more arches than players!