

...a video "Juegos infantiles cantados de México".

This video illustrates a game called "Juego del Pato" from Jalisco. It's a traditional Mexican game created by Mexican children. It can be easily taught from the following directions for the movement and The Duck Game.

Directions for playing "Juego del Pato":

One child is chosen to be the Duck. He or she stands in the center of the circle.

Other children stand in a circle around the Duck.



The Duck plays around with whatever he or she likes. The other children sing the song, "El pato que viene a casa".

Directions for playing "Juego del Pato":

Juegos infantiles cantados de México

The children in the room, including the teacher, sing the following:

*Cabroncito todos juntos, corriendo alrededor.
Vidlicón todos juntos, saltando alrededor.*

At the end of the song, the children

Directions for playing "Juego del Pato": The group takes hands and circles around while singing. The older or the teacher chooses one child who becomes the Duck and continues shouting with his or her last name like

Guide to video "Juegos infantiles cantados de México"

This video of Children's Game Songs of Mexico was filmed by Janet Glass in Cuernavaca, México and was edited by Maeve Richmond. It was made possible by a grant from The National Endowment for the Humanities and The Dodge Foundation.

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1) Matarile-rile-ró

Directions for playing: The group is divided into two lines facing each other about 5 feet apart. One line starts by taking 4 steps forward and 4 backward as they sing the verse. The opposite line matches the steps of the group they're facing. One of the players, or the teacher, is the caller. The caller names a child, "Yo escojo a _____. Then the caller suggests an occupation (or another name) for that player. The player responds with whether or not they like that occupation or name. The caller can then suggest another job or name until the child likes the choice. To end the game the whole group circles around singing, "Celebremos todos juntos."

Video script of matarile-rile-ró

-Amo a to, matarile-rile-ró

-¿Qué quiere usted?, matarile-rile-ró

-Yo quiero un paje, matarile-rile-ró

-Escoja usted, matarile-rile-ró

-Yo escojo a Ariana, matarile-rile-ró

-¿Qué oficio le pondremos? matarile-rile-ró

-Le pondremos Ariana, matarile-rile-ró.

-Ese nombre no me gusta, matarile-rile-ró

-Le pondremos Arianita, matarile-rile-ró

-Ese nombre no me gusta, matarile-rile-ró

.....

Celebremos todos juntos, matarile-rile-ró

Celebremos todos juntos, matarile-rile-ró

2) La rueda de San Miguel

Directions for playing: The group holds hands and circles around while singing. The caller or the teacher chooses one child who turns around but continues circling with his or her back towards the

center. The game continues until all players are facing the outside of the circle.

Video script of La rueda de San Miguel

A la rueda, rueda de San Miguel, San Miguel, todos cargan su caja de miel

A lo maduro, a lo maduro ¡Qué se voltee Ariana de burro!

A la rueda, rueda de San Miguel, San Miguel, todos cargan su caja de miel

A lo maduro, a lo maduro, ¡Qué se volteen todos de burro!

A la rueda, rueda de San Miguel, San Miguel, todos cargan su caja de miel.

A lo maduro, a lo maduro, ¡Qué se voltee Carlos de burro!

3) Vibora de la mar

Directions for playing: The teacher chooses two tall players to form an arch for the other players to pass under. All others form a snake holding the waist of the player in front of them. All sing. When the song ends one of the players is caught when the arms of the arch are lowered. The "prisoner" stands behind one of the arch holders. The game continues until each player is caught.

Video script of Víbora de la mar

Víbora, víbora de la mar, de la mar, por aquí pueden pasar;

Los de adelante corren mucho,

Los de atrás se quedarán,

Tras, tras,tras.

Una mexicana

Que fruta vendía,

Ciruela, chabacano,

Melón o sandía.

Verbena, verbena,

Jardín de matatena;

Verbena, verbena,

Jardín de matatena.

Campanita de oro

Déjame pasar,

Con todos mis hijos

Menos el de atrás,

Tras, tras, tras.

4) Las estatuas de marfil

Directions for playing: Players circle around holding hands while a child stands in the center. When the song ends each player must freeze into a "statue." The first statue that moves must dance with the child in the center.

Video script of Las estatuas de marfil

A las estatuas de marfil, una, dos, y tres así
él que se mueva baila el twist con su tía la lombriz.

5) Juan Pirulero

Directions for playing: The players sit in a circle with a child in the center. While everyone sings they make the motions of some job or activity such as sewing or playing the piano. The player in the center imitates the motions of one of the children in the circle who must immediately change his or her motion. If the player who is being imitated doesn't realize it, he or she is punished by having to run around the outside of the circle several times.

Video script of Juan Pirulero

Este es el juego de Juan Pirulero,
Que cada quien atiende a su juego.

6) Naranja dulce

Directions for playing: Players hold hands, circle around and sing. A child is chosen to stand in the center. When the song ends he chooses another child to hug. The first child then joins the circle. The second child takes the center. This can continue until each child has had a turn in the center.

Video script of Naranja dulce

Naran-ja dulce, limón partido,
Dame un abrazo que yo te pido.
Si fueron falsos mis juramentos,
En otros tiempos se han de olvidar.
Toca la marcha, mi pecho llora,
Adiós, señora, yo ya me voy.

7) Doña Blanca

Directions for playing: Players hold hands, circle and sing. "Doña Blanca" is in the center while "Jicotillo" waits outside the circle. When the singing stops he tries to break into the circle to see doña Blanca. When Jicotillo separates the clutched hands of two children, doña Blanca escapes from the circle in a different direction. If he

catches her before she is able to return to the safety of the circle two other players are chosen. If she returns to the center of the circle without being tagged, the same players start again.

Video script of Doña Blanca

Doña Blanca está cubierta
De pilares de oro y plata,

-Romperemos un pilar
Para ver a doña Blanca.

-¿Quién es ese jicotillo
Que anda en pos de doña Blanca?

-Yo soy ese jicotillo
Que anda en pos de doña Blanca.

Danzas regionales

Folkloric dance is still an active part of Mexican children's culture. The second part of the video shows a class studying the regional dances of Mexico. The dances shown are from Yucatan and Zacatecas. There is also a clip from a school's end of year closing ceremonies. It features the "jarabe tapatio".

Historical notes:

There are many versions of these games throughout Mexico where they are commonly called "rondas." Most of these are centuries old and came from Spain. The first ronda, Matarile-rile-ró, came from France. The first line, "Amo a to" was originally, "Un beau chateau." Versions of these rondas can be found throughout Latin America.

Sources:

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2. Vicente T. Mendoza. Lírica infantil de México. México D.F.: Fondo de Cultura Económica 1951.
3. Francisco Moncada García. Juegos infantiles tradicionales. México D.F.: Librería imagen editores 1985.
4. Richard B. Stark. Juegos Infantiles Cantados en Nuevo Mexico, Santa Fe: Museum of New Mexico Press 1973.

Musical Notation for Songs:

A musical score for 'Matarile-rile-ro' in common time (indicated by '4'). The key signature is A major (no sharps or flats). The melody consists of eighth and sixteenth notes.

Matarile-rile-ro

A - mo - a to, ma - ta - ri le ri le - ro.

La rueda de San Miguel

A musical score for 'La rueda de San Miguel' in common time (indicated by '4'). The key signature is A major (no sharps or flats). The melody consists of eighth and sixteenth notes.

A la rueda, rueda de San Miguel, San Miguel to do tra en su caja de miel.

A musical score for 'La rueda de San Miguel' in common time (indicated by '4'). The key signature is A major (no sharps or flats). The melody consists of eighth and sixteenth notes.

A lo ma - du - ro, a lo ma - du - ro que se voltee *sulano* de burro.

Víbora de la mar

A musical score for 'Víbora de la mar' in common time (indicated by '4'). The key signature is A major (no sharps or flats). The melody consists of eighth and sixteenth notes.

A la víbora, víbora de la mar, de la mar, por aquí pueden pasar;

A musical score for 'Víbora de la mar' in common time (indicated by '4'). The key signature is A major (no sharps or flats). The melody consists of eighth and sixteenth notes.

lo de a de lante co - rren mucho los de a trás que da - rán tras, tras, tras.

Las estatuas de marfil

A musical score for 'Las estatuas de marfil' in common time (indicated by '4'). The key signature is A major (no sharps or flats). The melody consists of eighth and sixteenth notes.

A las es - tartuas de mar - fil, u - na, dos y tres.

Juan Pirulero

A musical score for 'Juan Pirulero' in common time (indicated by '4'). The key signature is A major (no sharps or flats). The melody consists of eighth and sixteenth notes.

E - te es el jue - go de Juan Pi - ru - le - ro que ca - da quien a tiende a su jue - go.

Naranja dulce

A musical score for 'Naranja dulce' in common time (indicated by '4'). The key signature is A major (no sharps or flats). The melody consists of eighth and sixteenth notes.

Na - ranja dulce, li - mó n par - ti - do, dame un abrazo que yo te pi - do.

A musical score for 'Naranja dulce' in common time (indicated by '4'). The key signature is A major (no sharps or flats). The melody consists of eighth and sixteenth notes.

Si fue - ran falsos mis ju - ra - mentos en o - tros tiempos se olvi - da - rán - -

A musical score for 'Naranja dulce' in common time (indicated by '4'). The key signature is A major (no sharps or flats). The melody consists of eighth and sixteenth notes.

To - ca - la mar - cha mi pecho - llo - ra, a - dios, se - ño - ra, yo ya me voy

A musical score for 'Doña Blanca' in common time (indicated by '4'). The key signature is A major (no sharps or flats). The melody consists of eighth and sixteenth notes.

Do - ña Blan - ca es - tá cu - bier - ta con pi - la - res de o - ro y pla - ta,

A musical score for 'Doña Blanca' in common time (indicated by '4'). The key signature is A major (no sharps or flats). The melody consists of eighth and sixteenth notes.

rom - pe - re - mos un pi - lar pa - ra ver a Do - ña Blan - ca.