

Rattlesnake

Part I



R - A - T T - L - E S - N - A - K - E spells "rat-tle-snake".

Part II



Rat-tle-snake, rat-tle-snake. Where are you go-ing?

Rattlesnake would be best described as a partner song with an added element of fun.

Song: All children facing first direction sing: "R, A, T, T, L, E, S, N, A, K, E spells rattlesnake", repeating until no more children are left in original facing.

Once a child has been turned around, they sing "Rattlesnake, rattlesnake, where are you going?"

Movement: Children form long lines of 10-12 children, holding hands and facing the same direction. The child closest to the wall/piano/whiteboard is the tail and will secure one hand on whatever stationary object is closest; the child on the other end of the line is the head. The head leads the chain of children under the tail's arm and stationary object. The line continues through until the tail is turned around to face the opposite direction, their arms crossed in front of their body. The head then continues to lead the line around again, this time going between the child facing the new direction and the last child facing the original direction who will also be turned to face the new direction. The pattern of leading the line between the two sides of different facings continues until the head also turns the new direction.

Zacodi, codi

While technically an African game, this version of zacodi codi is a combination of ideas from many different sources. Karen Callan first introduced me to this game several years ago. My fifth graders and I refined the chant to a DD L, D S pattern and added a "king of the mountain" element that adds the danger of getting out without being out of the game.



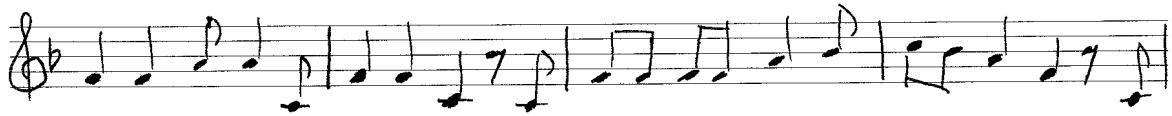
Za- co- di co- di (name), (name)

Students sit in a circle. One student is the "king"; the child immediately on the king's left is the "peasant". All students pat lap on zacodi, clap hands on codi, snap right fingers then left fingers. The king fills their own name on right snap then another child's name on the left snap. The child whose name was called will be the next person to fill in their own name on the right snap then another student's name on the left snap and so on until a child "misses" by not calling their name on right and another name on the left. The child who missed moves to the seat to the left of the king while the children move one spot until that child's spot is filled in. The goal is to be the king. Students often figure out strategies such as starting on increasingly faster tempi if they are the king or by passing the turn back to the king more often to increase the chance of the king missing.

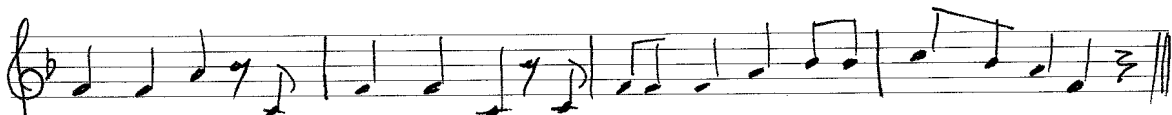
Green Sally



Green Sal-ly up, Green Sal-ly down, Green Sal-ly baked her pos- sum brown. She



asked her mo-ther for fif-teen cents to see the el-e-phants jump o-ver the fence. They



jumped so high, they touched the sky and didn't come back 'til the fourth of Ju-ly.

Song:

Green Sally up, Green Sally down. Green Sally baked her possum brown.
She asked her mother for fifteen cents to see the elephants jump over the fence.
They jumped so high, they touched the sky and didn't come back 'til the fourth of July.

Green Sally up, Green Sally down. Green Sally baked her possum brown.
See that house up on the hill. That's where me and my baby live.
The rabbit in the hash come a-steppin' in the dash with his
Long-tail coat and his collar on.

Movement:

Children are in groups of four with partners facing each other. The basic game is clap own hands, clap partner across, clap own, clap out sideways (one hand to each neighbor). If students haven't done this type of game, some time will need to be taken to decide that one set of partners should clap at a higher level and one set at a lower level when clapping across.

Extensions:

Partners clapping across will switch between high/ low or low/high.
Groups rotate while clapping- When students get to "rabbit in the hash come a-steppin' in the dash", everyone in the group does a side-close step to the right through the next verse.
Increase tempo with each repetition.
Open it up to the children. I've seen some very creative movements that I could never replicate!