# Nuestras Canciones y Juegos Infantiles Our Childhood Songs and Games

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"The fact that many children's games have the basic form of a circle is very significant. Society progresses when its members take each other's hands and help each other out. In this way, an atmosphere of solidarity is created that must prevail in all social groups."

Calixta Velez Adorno, Juegos Infantiles de Puerto Rico.

### 1. Pirwalla, Ayacucho, Perú

Traditional huayno, Children's circle game adaptation, Flor Canelo

Informant: Flor Canelo

Source: L. Mills. La Magia de Kodály, 2023.



Let us begin in a circle, an ancient stone corral, let us begin, in this round field. Let us sing, let us dance in this circle, this ancient stone corral, in this round field. Everyone is (hopping, dancing, flying, etc) in this stone corral, with such joy.

# 2. A la rueda de San Miguel, Guanajuato, México

Moving circle game, holding hands. Name game

Informant: Group of teachers at the Kodály workshop at the Suzuki Festival, Guanajuato, México 2011 Source: L. Mills. *La Magia de Kodály*, 2023.



Round and round St. Michael's wheel, everyone carries their box of honey.

As it ripens as it ripens, Ana turns into a donkey!

When all children have turned around, we sing:

A lo maduro! A lo maduro! Nos volteamos todos de burro!

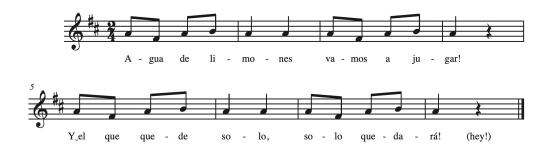


#### 3. Agua de limones, Colombia

Circle game, holding hands.

Informants: Teachers at Kodály workshop in Bogotá Colombia, 2010.

Source: A. Zuleta. Antología Kodály Colombiana.



Lemonade, let's all play! And whoever is left, is left alone!



L.Mills, WDOAKE 2025 session notes, www.lydiamillsmusica.com

### 4. La niña María, Chile

Circle game, one child in the middle. (Can be played as a name game.)

Informant: Dr. Carlos Miró, Chile, 2011.

Source: L. Mills. La Magia de Kodály, 2023.



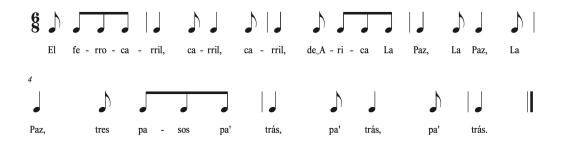
María has gone out to the dance. She dances and dances and dances, and if she doesn't dance, a penalty she will receive. Soledad dances so well, now you come, I want to see you dance!

#### 5. El Ferrocarril, Perú

Line game and stick-passing game

Informant: Flor Canelo, Perú, 2009

Source: L. Mills. La Magia de Kodály, 2023.



The railway, railway, from Arica to La Paz, La Paz, La Paz, three steps back, back, back.

L.Mills, WDOAKE 2025 session notes, www.lydiamillsmusica.com

# 6. Caracol-col, Argentina

Fingerplay. (Numbers.)

Informant: Edith Beraja, 2021

Source: La Magia de Kodály, L. Mills, 2023.





Snail, snail snail, take your horns out to the sun.

Take one out, now two out, for at 1 o'clock the sun comes out.

#### 7. Veo veo, Chile

Guessing game, traditionally played with the family at the table or while traveling

Informant: Miguel Robles, Santiago, Chile, 2021

Source: La Magia de Kodály, L. Mills, 2023.



I see, I see. What do you see? Something. What thing? It's wonderful. What color is it?

# 8. El ratón, Perú

Fingerplay

Source: L. Labarthe y R. de Barco. ¡Hola Bebé! CD para niños.



The mouse, the mouse is tiny and playful.

# 9. El gato y el ratón, Puerto Rico

Chase Game

rón.

Informants: Teachers from San Juan, Puerto Rico, 2014.

Source: La Magia de Kodály, L. Mills, 2023.

A - llá vie-ne\_el







Here comes the cat and the mouse to fight the shark!

ga-to\_y el ra - tón,

a dar-le com - ba-te\_al ti - bu - rón.

# 10. Paloma blanca, Argentina.

Double circle. (Can also be played using actions or with a storyboard.)

Informant: Elsa Zarco Giudice

Source: A. Giaroli and L. Mills, Mariposa Vuela, 2003.





The white dove was sitting in the lemon tree, with his beak he cut the branch and with the branch he cut the flower.

Ay, when will my love come?

I kneel at my love's feet, I stand back up

Give me your hand, give me the other, give me a kiss on the lips.

I will turn around, and turn again

But oh no, no, I am so shy,

But yes yes yes, because I love you so!

<sup>\*</sup>The translations in the notes are not precise nor literal, rather they are to give a general translation and meaning to the song.