

Round and Round

Informant/Performer:
Children ages 5-12,
Tabernacle Village, St. Kitts,
West Indies, 1974

Source:
Collected by Eleanor G. Locke

$\text{♩} = 120$

round and round we must go,

Bom, ma - ka - le - li,* chee, cheem bom.

Down Miss you must go,

Bom, ma - ka - le - li, chee, cheem bom.

* makaleli: an African game of self-defence performed with sticks and highly stylized moves.

Game Directions

All hold hands in a circle.

"It" is chosen by counting out to be in the center of a circle. The circle moves clockwise as first four bars are sung and repeated. On "down", "it" puts two palms on the head of someone in the circle who must then squat and continue in that position. The circle is not moving during this second part of the song. Then action starts over and continues until all are down, when the children place hands on each other's shoulders and move with frog jumps, hitching hips from side to side with much hilarity.