

Did You Ever See a Lassie

Source:

Eloise Hubbard Linscott

Folk Songs of Old New England

New York: Macmillan, 1939



Game Directions

The players form a circle and, as they sing "this was and that way," one player chooses a motion which the others imitate. At the end of the song, the child in center chooses another child to be "it." If a boy is chosen, the word "Lassie" becomes "Laddie."

Background Information

From the German folksong, "Buy a Broom," [or "Ach du lieber Augustin"] comes the air of this singing game, which is a survival of an English country dance. The dance in turn probably came from one of the morris dances performed with handkerchiefs. This game is similar to the old English singing game from Dorset, "When I Was a Young Girl."