

# A LA RUEDA, RUEDA

## Traditional Latin American Folk Songs for Children

Collected and Edited by Mirna Y. Cabrera and Martha E. Esquenazi

Singing songs and playing games are a fundamental part of a child's life, no matter where we live or what language we speak. Experience Hispanic-American heritage and traditions with this well-crafted collection of children's folksongs.

Playfully illustrated with original Uruguayan art, this collection for early childhood through the elementary grades features page-after-page of singable melodies and game instructions, with their cultural background. Both authors are of Cuban origin and have collected songs that will appeal to a wide audience, whether or not you can read music, speak Spanish, or in the case of small children, read at all. English translations, a pronunciation guide, and curricular indices are included. The enclosed CD provides quality demonstration recordings of children singing the songs unaccompanied, as they are traditionally performed.

Perfect for school or home, this collection provides parents and teachers with all the necessary tools for teaching the basic elements of music and Hispanic culture, which will be fun for children today and for generations to come.



Highly recommended by authors Micheal Houlahan and Philip Tacka, "A la rueda, rueda" also includes valuable cross-referencing to the teaching strategies and objectives in their best seller, "Kodály Today."

## SONGLIST

### CHILD PLAY

Patito, patito  
Aserrín, aserrán  
Dale a la mocita  
Mueve la pata  
Los cinco deditos  
La calabacita  
Manola

### LULLABIES

Rau, rau, rau  
Los pollitos  
Duérmete mi niño  
Señora Santana  
Si este niño se durmiera

### SONGS JUST FOR FUN

Sal solcito  
¡Que llueva!  
Yo tenía diez perritos  
El conejo  
Cucú, cantaba la rana  
Estaba la caravela  
La cucaracha  
Calle de calles  
Los seis patitos  
Alegre canta el burro

### ROMANCES

Las hijas de Meriño  
Mambrú  
Las señas del esposo

### SINGING GAMES

Debajo del puente  
El perrito goloso  
A la rueda, rueda  
Juan Pirulero  
La cojita  
Los unidos  
Don Pirulí  
Arroz con leche  
La Marisola



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# Don Pirulí

## (Mr. Pirulí)



This variant from the U.S.-Mexico borderlands is known in other Spanish-speaking regions by a variety of names: *San Severino* or *San Serafín* in Cuba, *San Serenín de la buena vida* in Spain, or just *San Selerín* in Costa Rica. It usually incorporates a long list of trades acted out by the players each time the verse is repeated. Some may no longer be a common part of modern life: *los escribientes* (the scribes), *los campaneros* (the bell ringers), *las tejedoras* (weavers), and the like.

d'tlsfmrđ

Singing circle, rueda (♩ = ca. 144)

**Traditional**  
Variant from Rio Grande Valley, Brownsville, Texas;  
used by permission.



1. Don Piruli, speak to us in a nice way,  
like so, like so, like so.  
Like so to *the ironing ladies*.  
Like so, like so we like it better.
2. ... las barrenderas ... sweepers
3. ... las tejedoras ... weavers
4. ... los carpinteros ... carpenters
5. ... los pescadores ... fishermen
6. ... las cocineras ... cooks
7. ... los carniceros ... the butchers



The "game" to this song consists of thinking up different occupations and acting them out. On the first line of the song, the children can clap the beat, or walk around in a circle. On the second line, one child in the center acts out the occupation of his/her choice. See Translation for some occupation ideas.



sample page from  
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