

Old Brass Wagon

United States Play Party Game

1. Cir-cle to the left, Old Brass Wag-on, Cir-cle to the left, Old Brass Wag-on,
Cir-cle to the left, Old Brass Wag-on, You're the one my dar - ling.

LYRICS:

1. Circle to the left, Old Brass Wagon, Circle to the left, Old Brass Wagon.
Circle to the left, Old Brass Wagon, You're the one, my darling.
2. Circle to the right, Old Brass Wagon, Circle to the right, Old Brass Wagon.
Circle to the right, Old Brass Wagon, You're the one, my darling.
3. Ev'rybody in, Old Brass Wagon, Ev'rybody out, Old Brass Wagon.
Ev'rybody in, Old Brass Wagon, You're the one, my darling.

SINGING

As the students hear the words, let them decide how they can implement the actions. The last phrase could be played with body percussion in the rhythm of the words, patting knees on "You're the one my", and clapping "darling". Make this play party game longer by singing the verses included here and by making up more, such as promenade, jumping in, swing your partner, etc. Help students discover the prevalence of repeated tones or pitches in this song. The first seven pitches are G, the same tone. Can they find other words that occur on repeated tones? Notice that the first phrase begins with Do, the second with Re, and the third with Mi. Those ascending pitches could be played on the tone bells as the students sing.

PLAYING

Play the autoharp chords as indicated on the music, strumming two beats per measure for a nice accompaniment.

Play non-pitched instruments in a dialogue fashion with woodblocks playing the  rhythm.

In measures 1, 3, and 5. Have tambourines play the  rhythm in measures, 2, 4, and 6. Both instruments could play the final two measures. Try other instruments with contrasting sounds for variety. Found sounds in the classroom or at home could add to the variety of sounds.

CREATING

Find the rhythm in the names of people, places or things that match the rhythm of Circle to the Left. For example, John and Mary Smith, Mississippi Mud, January First, Promontory Point, (or from the phone book, Nut and Bolt Supply). Can students make up verses with such words to begin the song?

LISTENING

While sitting, keep the steady beat by tapping toes of one foot twice per measure. Say the words while tapping in order to discover which words have four sounds to a beat. (Circle to the left) Which words have two sounds to a beat? (Old brass wagon) What words have one sound per beat? (*left* and *dar-ling*.)

Challenge student to tap the beat with one foot and pat the rhythm of the words on a knee at the same time.

You may wish to speak rhythm syllables to make the note divisions clear.

The quarter note is Ta | Eighth notes are Ti Ti  Sixteenth notes are Ti-de-Ti-de 
Pronunciation: Ta= Tah Ti = Tee Ti-de = Tee-duh

CURRICULUM INTEGRATION

In rural and frontier areas of most parts of the United States, play parties were very popular from the middle 1800s to about 1950. Singing games provided acceptable social activities where there was prejudice against dancing. Learn more about play parties in the article, "The Play Party in the Ozarks," by Dr. Alan L. Spurgeon, Kodaly Envoy magazine, Vol. 26, No. 1, Fall 1999.