

Folk Song Partners

Here We Go Looby Loo / Here We Go Again

Extension by Mary Donnelly

May be used with the Folk Song Partner activity featuring “Here We Go Looby Loo” and “Here We Go Again” in the March/April 2011, Volume 11, No. 5 issue of *Music Express*.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

“Here We Go Looby Loo” is a singing game which first appeared in print in 1898 Halliwell’s *Popular Rhymes of England*. A similar version of the game, called “Lubin,” was played in Scotland and Ireland. The game became popular in America and has evolved into another game with the same actions called “The Hokey Pokey.” It has a Roud Folk Song Index number of 5032.

MOVEMENT ACTIVITY

1. Do a dance. The dancers line up in two lines of four couples, partners facing each other. (You may need several sets.) Label one line #1 and the other line #2 (or boys and girls). Count two beats (steps) per measure.

Section A

Mm. 1-2: Line #1 steps forward three steps then claps partners’ hands on fourth beat.

Mm. 3-4: Line #1 steps backwards back to place.

Mm. 5-8: Line #2 repeats the same actions.

Section B

Mm. 9-12: Head couples separate and turn outward walking behind their respective lines as the line follows them.

Mm. 13-16: Head couples meet at the bottom of the line and join both hands to make an arch. The lines meet their partners and pass under the arch. They walk back to original places. Now the second couple becomes the new head couple while the old head couple stays at the bottom of the line.

Repeat section A.

2. Variation: Allow students to “let all their feelings out” by creating dance steps that show how they’re feeling.

Section A

Same as above

Section B

Mm. 9-12: Head boy improvises dance steps as he moves down the center of the two lines and stays at the foot of the line.

Mm. 13-16: Head girl improvises dance steps as she moves down the line.

Section A

Same as above



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TECH DECK

1. If your school has access to YouTube, show students the barn dance scene from the movie *Seven Brides for Seven Brothers*. Discuss the way the dance expressed feelings.
2. Show videos of other dance styles by typing in the dance style and the following suggested movies or ballets.

Ballet (*The Nutcracker*)

Hip Hop (*Step Up 2*)

Tap Dancing (*Singing in the Rain*)

Always preview videos before showing them to students in the classroom. These are merely suggestions. You may have additional ideas for examples.