

Four in a boat



A gentle circle game from Ohio.

As an alternative to the instructions below, younger children sit one behind the other rowing back and forth in a group of four. These groups of four then join up to face a second group. Holding hands with the child opposite they move back and forth as in 'Row, row, row your boat'

Verse 1. Four children join hands to make an inner circle within a larger class outer circle. Circles walk in opposite directions.

3. Children from the inner circle choose a partner, cross hands then skip round. Those in the outer circle shake forefinger to words of the last line and shake head.

3. Pairs do a side pull, arms linked and inside feet together, while the outer circle claps. Pairs in middle then bow and the original four join the outer circle. A new inner circle is made by those left and the game continues.

Four in a boat and the tide rolls high, Four in a boat and the tide rolls high,
Four in a boat and the tide rolls high, Wait-ing for a part-ner to come by and by.

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff contains the first two lines of the song, and the second staff contains the last two lines. Chords E, A, B7, and E are indicated above the notes.

Four in a boat and the tide rolls high,
Four in a boat and the tide rolls high,
Four in a boat and the tide rolls high,
Waiting for a partner to come by and by.

Choose that partner then dance all day,
Choose that partner then dance all day,
Choose that partner then dance all day,
We don't care what the old folks say.

Eight in a boat and it won't go round,
Eight in a boat and it won't go round,
Eight in a boat and it won't go round,
Bow to the one that you have found.