

Jenny Jenkins

<https://riverofsong.uk/>

A classic American child's folk song and a lovely song to sing when learning colour names.

Find fascinating notes about the traditional significance of certain colours at :<http://www.alabamafolklife.org/content/history-behind-songs> white for death, green for grief, red for joy, black for mourning, blue for sailors and constancy.

Find info on this as a game at: <http://mudcat.org/thread.cfm?threadid=48821> and <http://www.fresnostate.edu/folklore/ballads/R453.html>

Traditionally it is played as a line song with two lines facing each other. The lines take turns to move forward then back singing the first couplet. The other line thinks of a rhyme and moves forward and back with the reply. It also works well as a car game on a long journey – there are an infinite number of colours!



Oh, will you wear red, oh my dear, oh my dear?

Will you wear red Jenny Jenkins?

I won't wear red, it's the colour of my head,
I'll buy me a twirly whirly, sooky looky, Sally Katy,
Double lolly, roll-the-find-me.
Roll, Jenny Jenkins roll.

Oh, will you wear blue...

I won't wear blue, it's the colour of my shoe...

Oh, will you wear yellow...

I won't wear yellow, my fine young fellow...

Oh, will you wear green...

I won't wear green, I'm ashamed to be seen...

Oh, will you wear orange...

Orange I won't wear, and it rhymes so there! ...

Oh, what will you wear...

Now what do you care if I just go bare...

More ideas

Pink – I'd rather drink ink

Brown – it's all around the town

Grey – on such a sunny day

White – for the colour is too bright