

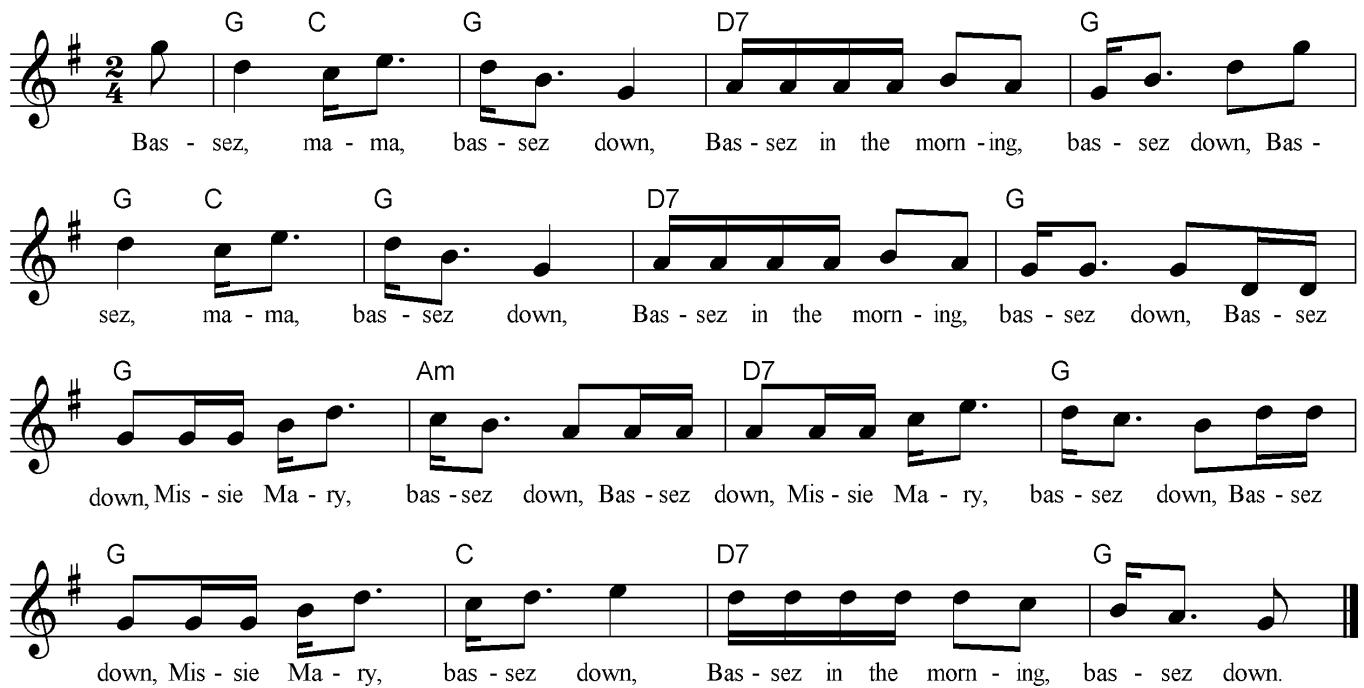
Bassez down

<https://riverofsong.uk/>

A West Indian calypso circle dance. The title is probably Creole for 'Dance low down'. Just wish I had been aware of this one when I taught in Handsworth, Birmingham in the late 1960s as most of my class of young children were of Jamaican origin.

It has a call and response section in the middle.

Children stand in a circle while one child walks round the inside as everyone sings. On the words 'Bassez in the morning' that child picks another to come into the middle and the first child returns to the circle. The child in the centre does a motion and those in the circle copies it as they sing the song again. Change the name of that child if you wish instead of 'Miss Mary'. The game continues as before.



The musical notation consists of four staves of music in 2/4 time, key of G major. The lyrics are: Bas - sez, ma - ma, bas - sez down, Bas - sez in the morn - ing, bas - sez down, Bas - sez, ma - ma, bas - sez down, Bas - sez in the morn - ing, bas - sez down, Bas - sez down, Mis - sie Ma - ry, bas - sez down, Bas - sez down, Mis - sie Ma - ry, bas - sez down, Bas - sez down, Mis - sie Ma - ry, bas - sez down, Bas - sez in the morn - ing, bas - sez down.

Bassez, mama, bassez down,
Bassez in the morning, bassez down.
Bassez, mama, bassez down,
Bassez in the morning, bassez down.

Bassez down, Missie Mary, bassez down.
Bassez down, Missie Mary, bassez down.
Bassez down, Missie Mary, bassez down.
Bassez in the morning, bassez down.

