

# Old Roger is dead

<https://riverofsong.uk/>



*Another suitable ring game for harvest time. Children stand in a circle. You will need volunteers to be Old Roger who lies on his back, with arms across chest, in the centre, an apple tree that crouches at his head ready to grow, an old woman who skips round the outside of the circle.*

**Verse 1. Children walk round in a circle singing.**

**2. Apple tree in the centre and children in the ring grow and sway with hands ringed over head.**

**3. Tree and children shake their hands and stoop to the ground.**

**4. The old woman enters the ring picks up apples and puts them in her basket Children in the ring copy this action.**

**5. Old Roger jumps up and makes a scary action towards the old woman who in turn looks terrified. Children in the ring also make scary faces.**

**6. The old woman moves around the circle with an exaggerated hobble.**

Old Ro - ger is dead and he's laid in his grave, Laid in his grave, Laid in his grave, Old  
Ro - ger is dead and he's laid in his grave, Heigh - ho! Laid in his grave.

The image shows two staves of musical notation for the song. The key signature has three sharps (F#, C#, G#) and the time signature is 6/8. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of the verse, with lyrics 'Old Ro - ger is dead and he's laid in his grave, Laid in his grave, Laid in his grave, Old'. The second staff contains the melody for the second line, with lyrics 'Ro - ger is dead and he's laid in his grave, Heigh - ho! Laid in his grave.' Chord symbols E, B7, and E are placed above the notes in both staves.

Old Roger is dead and he's laid in his grave,  
Laid in his grave, laid in his grave.  
Old Roger is dead and he's laid in his grave,  
Heigh-ho! Laid in his grave.

There grew an old apple tree over his head,  
Over his head, over his head,  
There grew an old apple tree over his head,  
Heigh-ho! Over his head.

The apples were ripe and they all fell down,  
All fell down, all fell down,  
The apples were ripe and they all fell down,  
Heigh-ho! All fell down.

There came an old woman a-picking them up,  
A-picking them up, a-picking them up,  
There came an old woman a-picking them up,  
Heigh-ho! A-picking them up.

Old Roger jumped up and he gave her a shock,  
Gave her a shock, gave her a shock,  
Old Roger jumped up and he gave her a shock,  
Heigh-ho! Gave her a shock.

Which made the old woman go hippety-hop,  
Go hippety-hop, gohippety-hop,  
Which made the old woman go hippety-hop,  
Heigh-ho! Hippety-hop.