

SHOO FLY
(American)

Play party game, no ptrs. Shoo Fly originated during the Civil War when Souffle Pies were popular and flies pesky. It is said that Shoo Fly is the corruption of Souffle Pie. This version is as we danced it down Alabama way for the fun it afforded. A dance suitable for the younger children.

Music: Record: Folkraft 1185 can be used if group can't sing well, but use of record limits the number of repeats of Music B.

Formation: Any number in a circle, no ptrs. All join hands.

Song: Shoo fly, don't bother me (sing three times)
For I belong to somebody.

Action: All run twd ctr, shooing the fly, with 5, 6, 7 or 8 steps (number of steps doesn't matter). shoo the fly bwd, and again fwd and bwd.

Song: I do, I do, I do,
But I'll not tell to who(m)
For I belong to somebody,
Yes, indeed, I do!

Action: Two dancers raise their joined hands to form an arch. Directly across from them one person goes twd that arch and leads all those behind him (or her) under it (no one releases hands). Keep on leading the line till a large circle with backs to ctr is formed. The arch will turn under their own hands. If circle is large repeat the singing of the second part as long as needed.

Repeat entire dance, but this time shoo the fly bwd first, then fwd, and repeat bwd and fwd. Same people form an arch again and leader leads them out until all face ctr. The children seem to enjoy running into each other on the bwd steps.

The dance is repeated as many times as desired but with new arches and new leaders.

Presented by: Vyts Beliajus