

Hop Old Squirrel

Name of Song or Rhyme

“Hop old squirrel, eidledum, eidledum”

Singing Game

First line of song or rhyme (text only)

Song type

Use a checkmark (✓) or “X” in appropriate boxes

Melodic	Melodic/Cultural Analysis	Rhythmic/Uses Analysis	Rhythmic
M1. CSP	A Source's Starting Pitch: A4	$\frac{2}{4}$	R1. Meter
M2. Scale	do trichord	$\text{♩} = 108$	R2. Metronome
M3. Toneset	(d) r m	$\text{♩}/\text{♩}/\text{♩}$	R3. Note values
M4. Range	1 - 3	☐ Outer: ☐ Inner:	R4. Upbeat
M5. Mel. Form	A B A A	☐ Iso ☒ Hetero A B A B	R5. Rhy. Form
M6. Cadences	1 2 1 1	4 4 4 4	R6. Beats/phrase
M7. Intervals		☒ Iso ☒ Bi ☐ Tri ☐ Hetero ☐ Tetra ☐ Other:	R7. Podia
M8. Target Phrases	A: m-r-d B: m-r	A: $\text{♩} \text{♩} \text{♩} $ B: $\text{♩} \text{♩} \text{♩} $	R8. Target Phrases
M9. M. Diffic.			R9. R. Diffic.
M10. Other			R10. Other
Cultural			Classroom Use
C1. Context	Chasing game	Actual Verses on Page 2	U1. # of verses
C2. Ethnicity	African-American		U2. Improv.
C3. Geographic	Virginia		U3. Listening
C4. Source: Where did this version come from?	Erdei, P. (Ed.). (1974) <i>150 American Folk Songs to Sing, Read and Play</i> (p. 2). Boosey & Hawkes.	Additional Room on Page 2 See page 2	U4. Game Directions/ Movement
C5. Source info	☐ Primary ☐ Secondary ☒ Tertiary	d-r-m $\text{♩}/\text{♩}$	U5. Ped. Uses
C6. Research Notes	Additional Room on Page 2 See page 2		U6. Roles
C7. Holiday		Animals, Movement	U7. Themes



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Stick Notation:

2/4

 m m m	 m m m r r d
 m m m	 m m m r
 m m m	 m m m r r d
 m m m	 r r r d

C6. Additional Research Notes

Information from *On the Trail of Negro Folk-Songs* by Dorothy Scarborough: Contributed to Scarborough by John Stone of Mountfair, Virginia, president of the Virginia Folk-lore Society. Song was taught to him by a white woman, a descendant of William Byrd II, who had seen an African-American sing and play it. He then “persuaded” an elderly African-American woman to show him the game. The words were improvised: “Catch the old squirrel...” / “I’ll give you fifty cents...”

U1. Additional Verses

U4. Game/Dance/Movement Instructions

From *On the Trail of Negro Folk-Songs*:
Two people skip around a tree and sing. The second tries to catch the first.

From *120 Singing Games for Dances and Elementary Schools*:
Hop about freely. Substitute other words and actions for “hop”, such as “jump”, “creep”, “crawl”, or “run”.