

GAME 3. TUE TUE

Handwritten musical score for 'TUE TUE' in three systems. The first system has lyrics 'Tu-e tu-e ma-ri-o Tu-e tu-e tu-e tu-e'. The second system has lyrics 'ma-ri-o Tu-e tu-e A-bu-tun ba A-ma ra wa ye tu-e tu-e'. The third system has lyrics 'tu-e tu-e tu-e tu-e tu-e tu-e' with rhythmic markings like 'to ta to ta to' and stars above notes.

Background

I remember playing this game as a child growing up in Ghana, West Africa. It is a hand clapping game which helped to develop an awareness of beat, rhythmic competence listening skills, and team spirit. As it is with traditional games, the meaning changes and eventually is lost as a game travels through out the country. This game is popular is all parts of the country and the children coin the words to suit them. This transcription is made from games collected in 1993 on a school playground in Cape Coast, Ghana.

How to play.

The players form two lines facing each other. The players do a four-beat body percussion pattern with the player they are facing. The player then turns to the side, faces another player and does the four-beat pattern again. The player is then expected to face the first partner again. In the second section the players create a bridge above their heads tapping facing partner maintaining the beat. The couple at the end come under the bridge and walk through still tapping hands. The next couple follows till all have had a turn.

Body percussion #1

Body percussion #2

Diagram for Body percussion #1 showing 'Partner clap' and 'patden' patterns over a four-beat staff.

Diagram for Body percussion #2 showing 'Partner clap' and 'patden' patterns over a four-beat staff.