

SLEIGH-RIDE
(Netherlands)

This Dutch singing game is known in the Netherlands as De arreslee.

Dutch pronunciation:

Music: Nevafoon LP 15024. 4/4 meter. Side 1, band 8.
Four meas of introduction.

Formation: Sleighs of two children, one in front, one behind, holding two hands, or four children; one cpl in front and one cpl behind. Both cpls hold inside hands with ptr and outside hands with the other cpl.

Action

The music has two phrases. A-music is "horse music" and is meant for "driving" in running steps lifting knees or heels, or alternating (16 in front, 16 behind, or 8/8/8/8 and so on).

The B-music can be used either to improvise "playing in the snow," or to do a "gliding around" movement, with a shuffle step making a circle of two or four, or holding R or L hand with ptr or four hands across (to get the gliding movement always mind to lean outward).

The children can make their own choice of figures or there can be a set sequence, for example:

- A1 Sleighs fwd, lifting knees.
- B1 R hand to ptr -- 16 gliding steps around -- back with L hand.
- A2 Sleighs fwd lifting knees for 16 steps, then heels 16 steps.
- B2 Two cpls, four hands around, 16 shuffle steps and back.
- A3 Like A2, changing every eight steps.
- B3 Two cpls R hand across 16 shuffle steps, and L hand across 16 shuffle steps.
- A4 Like A2, changing every four steps.

Words of song:

- A Jingle, jingle, jingle, here we go
For a sleigh ride in the snow
Oh, boy, how I like to ride
With my sweetheart by my side!
- B. Never was the snow so white,
Never was the moon so bright.
I could ride all through the night,
With my Sweetheart by my side!

Presented by Femke van Doorn