

Formation Sequence
Processing Folk Dance and Play Parties

Early Childhood

--Under 2 years--preferable with caregiver.

Sense of personal place and space/perimeter boundary usually not developed

Usually scattered in general space with legs out

Good concept: start/stop

Better in circle if holding hands

--3-6 years

Circle perimeter development--have a boundary or visual reminder

Early exercises in place/space

No holding hands in circle--red rover effect

Advanced--holding hands in circle

Taking turns

Jumping and turning in place and space

Returning to space

Isolating body parts and improvising motions with different parts

Elementary

--1st-3rd grade

Double line formation--in place

Partner interactions: around, meet

Cast off

Advanced variations

Strip the willow

Boston Tea Party, going over lines

Sweets of May, going around lines

“Down the alley” games

--4th-6th

Double Circle dances

Sicilian circle dances--groups of 4 dances

Morris dances