# THE PLAYTIME PRIMER

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The Playtime Primer by Catherine T. Bryce

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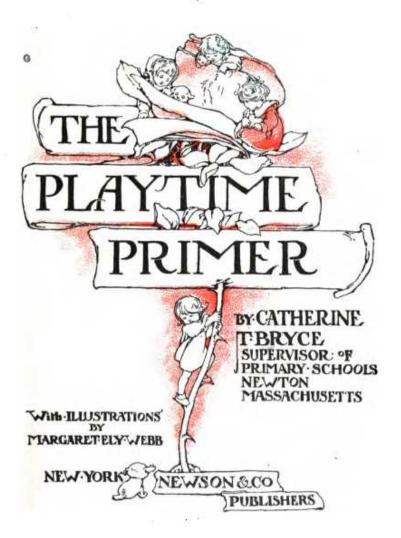
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## **CATHERINE T. BRYCE**

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#### NOTES FOR THE TEACHER

ALL children enjoy rhyme games — enjoy singing while they play. This little book attempts to carry the joy of singing and playing over into reading.

The rhymes and games here given are the old familiar ones that have come down through many generations of many peoples. Their history accounts for the many variants that most of them have. In this little primer, the old English variant has been given except in a few cases where it seemed better to make some slight change in the words.

The pupils first sing and play the game; then they read the words of the rhyme from the book, learning any new words; finally they read the lessons following the rhyme.

For the benefit of teachers to whom any of these rhymes and games may be unfamiliar, the music of the rhymes is here given, also a few definite suggestions regarding the playing of each game.

TAG (p. 3)

1



To play this game, the children stand in two rows facing each other, and about the length of their arms apart. One row sings the first stanza. As they sing "Tag! tag! tag! tag!" they try to tag the children in the opposite row. They may bend as far as they can without lifting their feet from the floor. The children in the opposite row may bend as they please to evade being tagged without lifting their feet from the floor. To take one step forward or one step backward puts one out of the game. Those who are tagged retire from the game. The second stanza is sung by the other row, who in turn try to tag the children in the first row. The point of the game is to see which side can tag the greater number.

### THE COBBLER (p. 6)

40

The music for this rhyme is the same as the music for Tag (p. vi). The game is much like the game of tag. One row of children sings the first stanza, sounding the "Rap! tap! rap! tap!" with toe and heel and pointing to their boots as they sing "this pair of boots." The other row sings the second verse, each pointing at the boots of the child standing opposite as he sings, "that pair of boots."

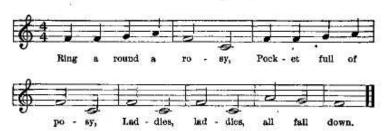
### THE HORN (p. 9)

The music for this game is the same as the music for Tag (p. vi). Again the two rows of children stand face to face. One row sings the first stanza, the other row, the second stanza. As they sing, "Toot! toot! toot! toot!" the children pretend to blow horns.

The three rhymes may be sung at one time as different parts of the same game.



## RING-A-ROSY (p. 15)



All the necessary directions are given in the reading lesson following the rhyme.

