

# PLAY WITH US

How  
EVS  
volunteers  
can  
inspire  
your  
work  
with  
children.

Remember your  
childhood.  
Always.

**Play with us**

How EVS volunteers  
can inspire your work with children

# Play with us

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Hi there!

We are delighted  
to present this  
book featuring  
children's games  
from various  
parts of Europe  
& Asia.

# Introduction

This publication is part of the European Voluntary Service projects: “Brave Kids and the Secret Garden”, “Jump into the volunteers’s ferry” and “Happy Kids, better Europe”, run by Wroclaw based Foundation of Social Integration Prom. The EVS within Erasmus+ programme offers young people (between 18–30) the opportunity to gain work experience in another EU country, learn foreign languages, get to know different cultures, and develop key competences. The EVS volunteers, coordinated by our Foundation and hosted by various educational institutions in Wroclaw such as kindergartens, primary schools and community centres, are the co-authors of this publication. During the project, lasting on average 10 months, the volunteers spend 7 hours a day working with children, helping with day-to-day activities, assisting during the realisation of the programme, and conducting their own activities in accordance with their interests and abilities. The volunteers are always being encouraged to teach the children the basics of their native languages through simple songs, learning to count or naming the colours. Presentations on music, architecture or national cuisine, as well as learning traditional, educational games from any given country, are an important element of intercultural education. Thanks to this, the curricula of educational institutions are enriched, teaching the children about non-verbal communication and increasing their openness and curiosity of the world. Some of the kindergartens involved in our projects have incorporated the EVS programme into their

curriculum as an educational innovation. We have created this book with the volunteers to allow other educational institutions to take advantage of ideas for unusual games for children of all ages. The presented games come from: Hungary, Spain, Italy, Portugal, Russia, Ukraine and Kazakhstan. We have devised a simple step-by-step description to make the presented ideas user friendly. The games are determined by the age and number of players, duration of the game and necessary materials. The descriptions are complemented by clear illustrations presenting different stages of the game. We hope you have an enjoyable time using this book!

## Who is behind this idea?

The Foundation of Social Integration Prom was established in 2004. It assembles people of various professions: teachers, trainers, psychologists, ethnologists, historians and sociologists. Our team of permanent co-operators consists of ten social activists. This professional variety perfectly reflects the character of our interests and activities including non formal and informal education, research on civil society and culture.

Our common aim is integration of persons and groups of people at risk of marginalization and social exclusion. We are united through a passion for our work and belief we can shape the reality.

We work with children and dysfunctional families, Roma minority and people with mental health problems. We help students and graduates, both Polish and from abroad.

The basic form of the Foundation’s activities is the running of community centres for children. Both our establishments are of an integrative character. Five days a week Polish and Roma children can find additional help with their school subjects and take part in interesting workshops. We offer our

users the possibility of developing their passions and cultural traditions. One outcome is an integration band, Terni Romani Bacht, where children learn not only dance and song but also tolerance.

The idea of European integration is also close to our hearts. Since 2009 we have been taking part in the European Voluntary Service under Youth in Action and now Erasmus+ Programme hosting volunteers from all over Europe. Since 2011 we have the accreditation as a hosting, coordinating and sending organisation. In 2014 our accreditation was successfully extended. We cooperate with two experienced coordinators and 4 well-prepared mentors. Until now we have hosted 58 volunteers within 13 projects.

For seven years we have been organising studies for institutions and organisations working on Roma in the countries of Visegrad Group. We introduce the knowledge and interesting ideas we have acquired into our daily work.

From 2004 we have taken part, in partnership with the Food Bank Federation, in food distribution for the poorest citizens. Every year our EVS volunteers are helping in charity events including food collection in supermarkets.

Our foundation cooperates with many researchers from universities and together we create and publish books and publications on Roma issues: books and comics for children and grown-ups alike. To promote interesting initiatives in the region, we have created an internet information service documenting activities within the governmental program on Roma in Lower Silesia.

We help create civil society through running very popular stations giving free legal advice for Lower Silesia citizens. Since 2006 we have already provided more than 2000 pieces of legal advice.

In 2013 and 2015 we organised two editions of the “Some of the many” social campaign. Its main objective was to improve the image of the Roma community in three provinces,

increasing knowledge about this ethnic minority and challenging stereotypes. The campaign is based on photographs of authentic Polish Roma figures, photographed by renowned American photographer Chad Evans Wyatt. The photos became the basis of other forms of communication, eg billboards (about 2,000 pieces) and 7 murals. The project was also present in the media; the advertisements had over 2 million views online, and there were more than 500 thousand sponsored articles and newspaper inserts added to regional newspapers. To know more visit: [www.jednizwielu.pl](http://www.jednizwielu.pl)

Within several annual projects we cooperate with Local Government units, State Administration and other NGOs and also with universities and cultural institutions.

In recognition of the Foundation's services for the integration of the Roma, in 2015 we received the European Citizen's Prize. The awards ceremony was held in the European Parliament in October 2015.

The main sources of funding – Human Capital Operational Programme under ESF, Lower Silesia Governor's Office, Ministry of Administration and Digitization, Municipality of Wrocław, Youth in Action / Erasmus+ Programme, Visegrad Fund, private sponsors.

### **Why EVS?**

From the very beginning of the Foundation's existence we have gained a lot of experience in working with young people from different backgrounds both during our ongoing projects (running community integration and animation projects) and our seasonal projects (winter and summer camps, school half term activities). Before starting the EVS adventure, we had hosted, in our offices, numerous volunteers and interns from Wrocław based universities (5 people a year on average). Our former pupils continued cooperating

with us, and helped out during trips and events. We have learnt how to support and teach them, and how to organise their work. Therefore, another goal and a challenge was to host volunteers from abroad; and as a result of this decision we have been accredited to host volunteers in the “Youth in Action” programme since 2009, and in the Erasmus+ programme since 2014. To this day we have implemented (or are in the process of implementing) 8 projects with 28 volunteers as a hosting organisation, and we have coordinated another 5 projects with 30 volunteers. Thanks to our staff and premises, as well as many interesting projects completed each year, and the cooperation with Wrocław based art, science and cultural institutions, we are able to devise an attractive volunteer work program. Each year our project is gaining in popularity and receiving numerous cooperation offers and inquires from potential volunteers and hosting organisations. In 2011 we obtained the status of organisation coordinating EVS projects. In 2014 we coordinated our first hosting project for the Song of the Goat Theatre Association. Two female volunteers from Portugal and Russia worked during the organisation of the Brave Kids Festival. Since then, we have been approached by 8 institutions and have prepared them for the accreditation process, and are now implementing EVS projects together. Among them are state and private kindergartens (including linguistic and environmental kindergartens), and a democratic primary school. This is how the project “Happy kids, better Europe” was created, and this book is an integral part of it.

**To work in this project we invite people:**

- who love to work with children
- have some experience in scouting
- are motivated to go abroad for a longer period of time
- are creative and imaginative; having organizational skills
- have a positive attitude, are open-minded and honest
- are flexible, friendly, helpful
- who like to work in big groups
- are responsible and trustworthy
- who want to learn foreign languages
- have passed a medical examination (necessary to work with little children in kindergartens)
- do not have a criminal record

**What are the practical arrangements?****What do we provide for volunteers?**

- monthly allowance = pocket money: 85 euro / month
- food money: 400 zł per month; possibility to eat breakfast and lunch at work.
- local transportation ticket
- travel tickets from volunteer’s city to Wrocław and back (up to the amount based on Distance Calculator of Erasmus+, the excess of this amount will be paid by the volunteer)
- Polish language course twice a week
- travel costs for on-arrival and mid-term trainings in Poland
- place in a room shared with other volunteers or students (with Internet access, kitchen equipment, fresh towels, bed-clothes and blanket)
- 7 hours of work per day, including Polish language course (35–38 hours per week)
- 2 free days per week and 2 extra free days per month.
- all the required medical examinations, health and safety training at the beginning

**What are the benefits for volunteers?**

**Throughout this project volunteers can:**

- increase their language skills (to learn the basics of the Polish language, deepen their knowledge of English)
- learn how to work in a group and resolve conflicts if necessary (they will be more flexible and ready to adapt to changes in the environment after such a long stay in a foreign country)
- be able to understand better and accept cultural differences
- learn many interesting ways / methods of working with children, special games for different ages, Montessori method etc.
- be more self-confident, responsible, mature
- become familiar with the Polish Education System and the needs of children in pre-school age
- develop self – organizing activities, you will learn how to plan and manage your time and finances
- realise the most effective way for you to learn
- observe different specialists at work (speech therapist, psychologist etc.)
- make new friends

- developing social relationships of employees and parents by establishing international contacts; developing their cultural sensitivity, motivation to learn foreign languages and to personal development, motivation for action

\* \* \*

**What are the benefits for hosting organizations**

**(kindergartens, schools)?**

- broadening the educational, cognitive and social development offer for the students
- being around the volunteers is an opportunity for the children to gain new experiences, acquire interpersonal skills, and establish positive relationships with the environment
- learning foreign languages, cultures and traditions of other countries
- ensuring children's greater safety while playing and learning by having additional help
- additional support in toddlers' adaptation to new conditions outside the home environment

Natalia Smirnova (Наталья Смирнова)  
Chuvash Republic, Cheboksary

# Owl and birds

*I am a very versatile, self-motivated person. I try to achieve my goals by creating clear steps, without losing a smile and keeping a positive outlook on life. I am very sociable and friendly and try to make as many good friends and colleagues as possible while paying attention to the people around me.*

**Number of players:** 7-15  
**Age:** 4-10 y. o.  
**Time:** 15-20 min.  
**Materials needed:** none  
**Place:** kindergarten or backyard – as long as you have a bench

- 01 Before the game, the children choose the names of birds for themselves (pigeon, crow, jackdaw, sparrow, goose, duck, crane, etc.).
- 02 One player is nominated to be an owl. He / she goes to his nest – moves away from the other children.
- 03 The rest of the players quietly figure out what birds they want to be in the game – make sure that the owl cannot hear them!
- 04 Birds fly, shout, stomp and squat. Each player imitates the cry and the movements of the bird he / she has chosen.
- 05 On the signal **Filin!** (meaning: owl) – all the birds try to quickly take a seat.
- 06 If the owl – *Filin* – catches someone, he / she needs to guess what bird that person is imitating. If he / she guesses correctly, the other person becomes an owl.
- 07 Birds' houses and owl's house should be placed on a raised surface – higher up (for example: tree stumps, benches, etc.).
- 08 Birds fly to the nest at a signal or as soon as the owl catches one of them.



Ágnes Tóth  
Hungary (Magyarország), Debrecen

# Adj király katonát! – King, give soldiers!

**Number of players:** whole class  
**Age:** over 5–6 y. o.  
**Time:** around 10 min.  
**Materials needed:** none  
**Place:** a big hall or a backyard (to run freely)



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- 01 Two groups are needed.
- 02 The children have to stay in 2 lines facing each other. They have to hold hands.
- 03 First group has to say:  
**Adj király katonát! – King, give soldiers!**
- 04 The second group responds:  
**Nem adunk! – We don't give!**
- 05 First group:  
**Akkor szakítunk! – Then we will break through!**
- 06 Other:  
**Szakíts, ha bírsz, ha mersz, ha tudsz, ha van benned anyi szusz! – Break through if you can, if you dare, if you are strong enough!**
- 07 Then group one sends one child to attack the other group's line. If the child can break through – the line lets go of each other's hands – the attacker can choose one person and bring them back to their line. If not, the attacker joins the attacked line.
- 08 They can play until one person is left in the group.



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Dóra Biró  
Hungary (Magyarország), Pincehely

# Animal catching

*Often the most simple ideas and games have the biggest success.*

**Number of players:** for any number of children  
**Age:** from 8 y. o.  
**Time:** as much as they want  
**Materials needed:** chairs and newspaper or paper – they have to roll it up  
**Place:** anywhere – indoors or outdoors



- 01 The children have to sit in a circle (better on chairs).
- 02 Every child has to select an animal name they want, but the names have to be different.
- 03 Everybody tells each other what names they have selected.
- 04 One of the children is standing in the middle of the circle with the rolled newspaper (she / he has also chosen an animal).
- 05 One child sitting in the circle says an animal name, for example a lion, and the child who is standing in the middle of the circle has to go to that child who chose a lion (so they have to remember each other's animals) – she / he has to beat the lion's leg with a newspaper.
- 06 But the "lion" has to say really fast another player's animal name (before the child in the centre of the circle hits him / her).
- 07 The aim: every child has to pay attention and needs to be fast.
- 08 If anybody can't say an animal's name fast enough (or says their own or the middle person's animal name) and the person in the middle hits them, they have to change position and the game has to be restarted.

Dorottya Szabó  
Hungary (Magyarország), Székesfehérvár

# Baking breads

*I live in a big family – I have 3 siblings. I like singing and playing music.*

**Number of players:** doesn't matter  
**Age:** 4–9 y. o.  
**Time:** the game's time depends on  
how many children are there;  
but the game is fast  
**Materials needed:** none  
**Place:** anywhere – indoors or outdoors

- 01 Children have to sit behind each other; they have to be patient and wait for their turn.
  - 02 Next to the first child there are two adults and they take the child's hands while everybody else is saying: **the breads are baking, the breads are baking.**
  - 03 The children start to move like a swing, and the adults take the first child's hands, they swing the child and they throw him or her.
- \* Of course we play the game at the end of the class :)



Áron Kálmán  
Hungary (Magyarország), Szombathely

# Hungarian tennis

*I studied at a religious High School in my city Szombathely and my hobby is fishing in the second biggest river in Hungary, called Tisza. I like to travel and experience other cultures!*

**Number of players:** 2 or 4  
**Age:** 12–99 y. o.  
**Time:** around 25 min.  
**Materials needed:** It requires a round, wooden racket head (that fits in a human hand) and a tennis ball and some kind of net (it can be a single rope if there is no net). The field is a flat area of 5 × 10 meters divided by a 2-meter high net – it looks like a badminton court. The racket is made of hard wood, has the shape of a large round stamp and weighs 300 g.  
**Place:** in the backyard – far away from any windows

The rules are pretty much the same like in normal tennis but it is a bit different because the racket is your hand holding a piece of wood similar to a large round stamp with a vertical handle, and that's why it is much harder than the usual tennis.

- 01 Players must serve from behind the baseline of the field.
- 02 If the ball hits the net, but lands on the opposite side, the player can retake the serve.
- 03 You need to hit the ball over the net. If the ball goes into the net or lands outside the court you lose the point.
- 04 The player who reaches 6 points wins the set, but the difference must be 2 points. This means that at 5–5, one player has to reach 7–5 to win.
- 05 One game consists of 2 (for women) or 3 (for men and doubles) won sets.
- 06 The player who lost the previous set shall start the next one.



**Bálint Mikó**  
Hungary (Magyarország), Budapest

# Méta – running rounders

*If I were in Hungary I would introduce myself as Mikó Bálint, since Hungary is one of the few countries where the family name goes first! I study Human Resources in Budapest and in my free time I like wall-climbing and learning languages!*

**Number of players:** between 12–24 (6 to 12 on a team)  
**Age:** 5+ y. o.  
**Time:** 30–45 min.  
**Materials needed:** ball (plastic ball, football), stick or a bat to hit the ball. The game can be played on an indoor or outdoor field (20 × 40 m) which has sidelines, a baseline and a home base. Homebase is where you start from and finish.  
**Place:** in the backyard – mind the windows

Generally, the game resembles English rounders, dodgeball, German schlagball, and early forms of baseball in the US.

- 01** Children have to be divided into 2 teams. One team is batting and the other is fielding.
- 02** The batting team tries to score as many runs as possible.
- 03** The team that is fielding plays defensively; they try to prevent the opposing team from scoring runs by catching the ball and aiming / throwing it at the opponent.
- 04** One person from the defending team bowls (throws) the ball to the batter from the attacking team, who has to hit the ball and run to the other end of the field and run back.
- 05** The defending team tries to catch the ball and hit the batter with it. The batter needs to run from one end of the pitch to the other and back, to score a point.
- 06** If the person manages to run back without getting hit by the ball, the attacking team scores. If they get hit, they are out.
- 07** If 3 persons are out, the teams swap their roles – the batting team becomes the fielding team, and vice versa.



Silvia Cirronis  
Italy, Cagliari (Sardinia)

# Corsa con i sacchi (Sack-race)

*I like to discover everything that is new and I always try to take positives from it. I like to collect little moments. I am a determined person, I love nature and to walk in it, taking photos and enjoying it. I like to read, especially poetry. And, like a true Italian, I like to eat.*

**Number of players:** minimum 4; it can be played as a team relay  
**Age:** from 5 y. o.  
**Time:** around 20 min.  
**Materials needed:** cotton or jute big sacks plus cones or some kind of marker – if used  
**Place:** backyard

Establish start and finish line.

- 01** Each child puts both legs inside the sack, holds it up to their waist, and hops around the cones and back, tagging another team member – if you have decided to play it as a relay.
  - 02** Then, the next person in line gets into the sack and repeats the same journey.
  - 03** If somebody trips over or makes a mistake they have to start again.
  - 04** The winning team is the one where all teammates have finished the race before their competitors.
- \* It makes the game more fun to position cones, marked points or obstacles the players need to go around, or they may have to pick up a designated object and bring it with them to the finish line.



Martina Magatti  
Italy, Albairate

# Elastic game

*I'm 19 years old and I live with my family in a village close to Milan and I graduated from a human sciences high school. I love to be in contact with people and to travel. In the future I would like to be a doctor.*

**Number of players:** minimum 3  
**Age:** from 5 y. o.  
**Time:** 1 or 2 min. per each level  
**Materials needed:** 3 or 4 meters of elastic string  
**Place:** hall or backyard as long as there is a flat surface

- 01 Two people stand one in front of the other, 1,5 or 2 metres from each other, with the elastic string around their ankles.
- 02 The third person stands in the middle of them outside the elastic string.
- 03 The third player has to do a particular choreography jumping inside, out and over the elastic string.
- 04 At the end of the choreography the elastic is moved a little bit higher up (until you reach the shoulder).
- 05 If there are mistakes in the choreography the one who is jumping has to move and let one of the other players take his / her place.



Malika Murzagaliyeva (Малика Мурзагали)  
Kazakhstan, Oskemen (Қазақстан, Өскемен)

# Sokkurteke

**Number of players:** up to 40  
**Age:** any  
**Time:** depends on the number of participants, around 30 min. for a group of 10–13 children  
**Materials needed:** a blindfold  
**Place:** wherever you want, as long as it is safe for the blindfolded player

- 01** Participants make a circle and hold hands.
- 02** Three to four participants are inside the circle, one of them is blindfolded.
- 03** The three players in the circle alternately touch the blindfolded player, approaching him / her from different sides, while he / she tries to guess who touched him / her.
- 04** If he / she guesses correctly, the person who was caught is now blindfolded and the game resumes.



Inês da Costa Pereira Horta  
Portugal, Caldas da Rainha (Leiria)

# Blind goat

*When I graduated from Pre-School Education, it seemed like a good opportunity to go to a different country, to get to know a different reality and gain more experience in working with children. It was, indeed, the best choice for me. If you are a new volunteer: make the most and give your best to this volunteering experience. It will change you!*

**Number of players:** large group of children  
**Age:** from 4 y. o.  
**Time:** around 15 min.  
**Materials needed:** a piece of cloth to cover the eyes of one child who will be the blind goat  
**Place:** big hall or backyard, but on a flat surface, so that the game is safe for the blindfolded player

- 01 Facing each other, the children form a big circle by joining hands.
- 02 The “blind goat” stays in the middle, with their eyes covered.
- 03 Then, the children start a dialogue with the goat:
  - **Blind goat, where do you come from?**
  - **I come from the windmill**
  - **What do you have to eat?**
  - **Bread and wine**
  - **Will you give me a bit?**
  - **No**
- 04 When the goat says *No* the rest of the children start running through the space, which must not be too big.
- 05 The goat has to chase them and try to tag one child.
- 06 During the game, the children who are running try to approach the goat, making noises to disorientate it.
- 07 When the goat tags a child, she or he has to guess who it is, by touching the body of the child with their hands.
- 08 If she / he is right, then that child will be the next blind goat.



Albina Karimova (Каримова Альбина)  
Russia, Izhevsk (Ринатовна, Россия, Ижевск)

# Gabdulla

*I come from Udmurt Republic and I am a Volga Tatarian – Russia's second largest ethnicity. I have lived and studied in Izhevsk, Kazan, Moscow, Saint Petersburg and Wrocław so all my life I have been in a multicultural society. And I am sure that the only way to be a human is to keep learning about your own and other cultures.*

**Number of players:** 5–15  
**Age:** any age  
(they only need to be able to walk)  
**Time:** 5–10 min.  
**Materials needed:** none  
**Place:** anywhere – indoors or outdoors

- 01** Everybody stands in a circle around one child, *Gabdulla*, in the centre.
  - 02** The children are singing while going around:  
**You are in the middle, we are spinning, Gabdulla!**  
**Whatever you do, we will repeat!**
  - 03** The one in the centre makes some movements or a sign and sings:  
**Like this and like that**  
**Come on repeat after me!**
  - 04** Everybody repeats. Then another child becomes *Gabdulla*. To make it more difficult you can add some rules, for example: every next person in the middle should repeat previous movement first and then show a new one.
- !** This is not a competitive game. It's about having fun, singing and playing all together.
- \*** For those who know any of the Turk languages, because they are quite similar to each other, this song is in Cyrillic Tatar.  
**Син уртада, без кырыйда**  
**Эйләнәбез Габдулла.**  
**Син нишләсәң, ни кылансаң,**  
**Шулай эшләргә кала.**  
—  
**Ул шулай да, ул болай**  
**Эйдә эшләгез шулай!**



Micaela Lafratta Ramos  
Spain, Alicante

# El pañuelo (the handkerchief)

*I am a 22 years old Spaniard although I was born in Argentina. After the EVS I want to visit my sisters and my parents in Spain before starting a Masters in Denmark to continue with my studies as a journalist.*

**Number of players:** from 6 players + 1 child / teacher to hold the handkerchief; good for large groups of around 25 children

**Age:** 5-12 y. o.

**Time:** as much as you want but normally it takes 20 min.

**Materials needed:** a handkerchief (or something that can be caught easily by the children)

**Place:** anywhere - indoors or outdoors

- 01 Make two groups with the same number of children.
- 02 Each group, separately, has to assign a number to each child. Eg: If there are 12, they have to split the group into 6 and 6, and in each group assign a number from 1 to 6.
- 03 Make 2 lines separated from each other. Each group has to be in their line, and a child or a teacher in the middle of these two groups with a handkerchief.
- 04 The child / teacher who has the handkerchief has to say a number, and the two children with this number have to run to catch the handkerchief.
- 05 The child that catches the handkerchief has to run to his / her line. And the other has to try to catch him / her before touching the line.
- 06 The winner is who catches the handkerchief and goes back to his / her line without being touched by the other group.



José Ángel Sánchez Fuentes  
Spain, Jaén

# Find your shoes

*I consider myself a calm and respectful person. I like hiking, listening to music, playing football and I also like to travel and get to know new cultures.*

*“Knowledge does not take place, learn all you can and teach what you have already learned.”*

**Number of players:** the whole class  
**Age:** around 5–6 y. o.  
**Time:** about 10 min.  
**Materials needed:** none  
**Place:** inside the kindergarten

- 01 All the children take their shoes off and pile them up.
- 02 The shoes are mixed and the children sit around the shoes in a large circle.
- 03 The children sit with their backs to the shoes, so they do not look at the shoes.
- 04 When the teacher gives the signal, the children have to run towards the shoes.
- 05 They have to find one of the shoes and return to the circle, put on the shoe and go to find the other shoe.
- 06 The winner is the first person to find both shoes.



**María Inmaculada Gil Garrido**  
Spain, Madrid

# The shoes behind you

*I studied Bachelor in Psychology and I decided to participate in this project because I wanted to work with children. I enjoy playing with them every day, and it is the perfect way to improve your creativity.*

**Number of players:** minimum 4  
**Age:** from 4 y. o.  
**Time:** it can be as long as children and educator want  
**Materials needed:** none  
**Place:** inside or outside the kindergarten, but remember that the children need to sit down



- 01** All the children are sitting in a circle, but one of them is standing up outside the circle, and has a shoe in his / her hands.
- 02** The game starts when children cover their eyes with their hands and sing a song, while the one child goes around the circle.
- 03** The song is:  
**Let's play the shoe behind you game,**  
**eehh, uuuh,**  
**you don't see the shoe and you will not see it,**  
**Eeh, iih,**  
—  
**Look up, beans are falling,**  
**Look down, lentils are falling.**  
—  
**Let's sleep, let's sleep,**  
**The Three Magic Kings are coming...**
- 04** Before the the song ends, the child has to leave the shoe behind one of the children in the circle.
- 05** When the song finishes, they finally open their eyes and look back to check if the shoe is there.
- 06** The child who has it has to stand up and try to catch the child who put the shoe behind them.
- 07** If he / she is caught, he / she has to stand up again in the next round; but if he / she is faster and sits before the other child, they will change the positions and the new child will get the shoe.

Nataliia Vadiuk (Наталія Вадюк)  
Ukraine, Lviv (Україна, Львів)

# Chicken and fox

*Privit!*

*Dear volunteers, before going to EVS I was doing various things: attending Art School, ballroom dancing, studying commerce, taking part in language classes. I had great friends, good relations with my family and everything a human needs for a comfortable existence. But finally I understood that if I went out of my comfort zone, I could do more, be more useful and helpful, I could travel, study foreign languages and discover new cultures, my life may have more sense. Therefore my next step was very clear for me: to become a volunteer in a place where I can implement my skills to the maximum and enjoy my work. A sentence for volunteers: "Choose the work you like, and you will not work a day in your life" Confucius.*

**Number of players:** minimum 6  
**Age:** 3-5 y. o.  
**Time:** 15-20 min. (depends on the children)  
**Materials needed:** there is only a need to paint or point chicken seats and fox house  
**Place:** inside or outside the kindergarten – as long as you have a bench

Paint a circle which is a fox's house on one side of the classroom or playground. On the opposite side there is a bench, which represents the chicken's seats.

- 01 One child is chosen to be the fox.
  - 02 The teacher is the leader of this game.
  - 03 The chickens play and run on the playground, while the fox stays in the house.
  - 04 Teacher shouts **The Fox is going for a walk**. The main task of the fox is to catch a chicken and bring to the house.
  - 05 The fox can not catch chickens on their seats, so they can escape from the fox and stand on the bench.
  - 06 When all the chickens are on the seats, the fox goes back to the house until teacher allows him / her to go out again.
- \* When there is more than one fox, the game becomes more difficult.

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Liudmyla Kolodii  
Ukraine, Skomoroszki

# Geese

*I am 23 years old and I graduated from agricultural studies, but I like working with children the most. I can run around with them while playing in the garden, and their creativity amazes me every day. It is thanks to children that the participation in the project is such a unique experience for me, and I will remember it for a lifetime.*

**Number of players:** between 10–30 children  
**Age:** 4–6 y. o.  
**Time:** 20–30 min.  
**Materials needed:** none  
**Place:** inside or outside the kindergarten

- 01 Children should be divided into two groups.
- 02 Both groups face each other in two parallel rows, holding hands.
- 03 The game begins with a poem recited alternately:
  - Geese, geese – shouts first group
  - Honk, honk (or ge, ge in Polish) – responds the others
  - Do you want to eat?
  - Yes we do
  - Come on, get what you want – The first group encourages the other
- 04 Then one child (being a goose) tries to run and break the joined hands “wall” of the opposing team.
- 05 If he / she succeeds, they take one participant to his / her team, otherwise he / she goes to the opposing team himself / herself.
- 06 The winning team is the one with the most people caught.



Daria Kushniruk  
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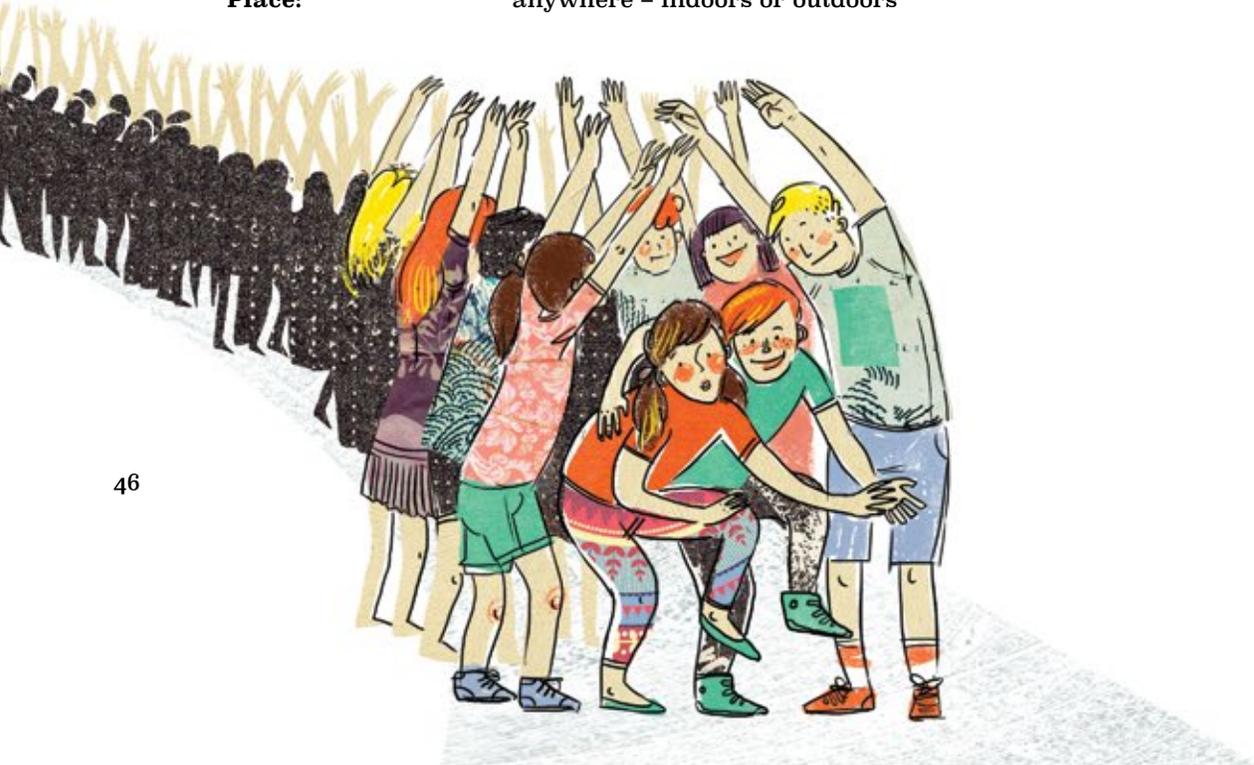
# Small river or Stream

*I am 27 years old and I like to travel. I have a Master degree in Economic Science. One sentence from me – Share the love! Don't try to change the world, but change yourself!*

**Number of players:** at least 6 people, but 10+ would be better  
**Age:** 7–12 y. o.  
**Time:** depends on the number of rounds – as many as you want  
**Materials needed:** none  
**Place:** anywhere – indoors or outdoors

It is better to play this game with cheerful music.

- 01 Choose a leading person, the rest of the children are divided into pairs, preferably boys with girls, and holding hands.
  - 02 The pairs form a corridor and join hands above their heads to create an arch.
  - 03 The leading person enters the corridor from one end and moves to the other end, choosing a pair on the way.
  - 04 The leader takes someone he or she likes by the hand, disengaging the standing couple.
  - 05 The new pair goes together to the end of the “stream” and stands there, raising their hands up.
  - 06 The released player becomes the leader, goes to the beginning of the “stream” and enters the corridor, choosing a person from a couple and so on, until everyone gets bored of playing.
  - 07 If there are a lot of people playing, there can be several leads.
- \* It is advisable to play the game at a fast pace, so it's more fun (just imagine that only you were chosen and you stood up, having your hands clasped in a new pair, as they choose you again and again to pull you into the trickle).
- \*\* It is very good to conduct this game in a large team, a good chance to get acquainted and to reveal the hidden sympathies of boys and girls.



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