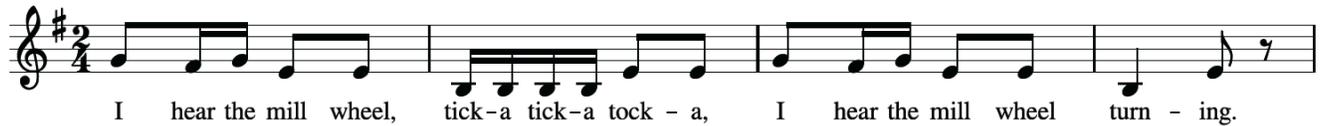


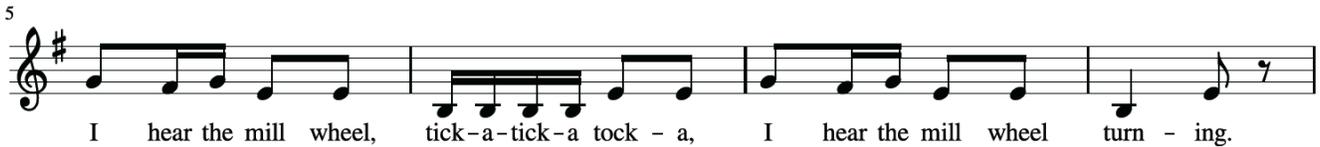
# I Hear the Mill Wheel

folk song



I hear the mill wheel, tick-a tick-a tock - a, I hear the mill wheel turn - ing.

5



I hear the mill wheel, tick-a-tick-a tock - a, I hear the mill wheel turn - ing.

9



Tick tick-a tock - a tick tick tock Tick-a tock - a tick-a tock - a I hear the mill wheel,

14



tick - a tick - a tock - a, I hear the mill wheel turn - ing.

J'entends le Moulin is a French Canadian folk song best known in the province of Quebec.

Donald Patriquin shares the following background in his choral arrangement of this song.

"J'entends le moulin was originally known in France as 'Mon père a fait bâtir maison.' Ernest Gagnon, in his *Chansons populaires du Canada* (1880), maintains that it is well known in the French provinces of Saintonge and L'Aunis. The text appears at times to be illogical and nonsensical due to its 'game of rhymes' in which the final syllables of each line all rhyme with "tends" of "J'entends."

## French lyrics

J'entends le moulin tique tique taque

Mon père a fait bâtir maison  
L'a fait bâtir à trois pignons  
Sont trois charpentiers qui la font.  
Le plus jeune c'est mon mignon.

Qu'apporte-tu dans ton jupon?  
C'est un pâté de trois pigeons  
Asseyons-nous et le mangeons.

En s'asseyant il fit un bond,  
Qui fit trembler mer et poisson  
Et les cailloux qui sont au fond.

## English translation

I hear the millwheel ticka-ticka tocka

My father is having a house built.  
It's being built with three gables.  
There are three carpenters building it.  
The youngest is my darling.

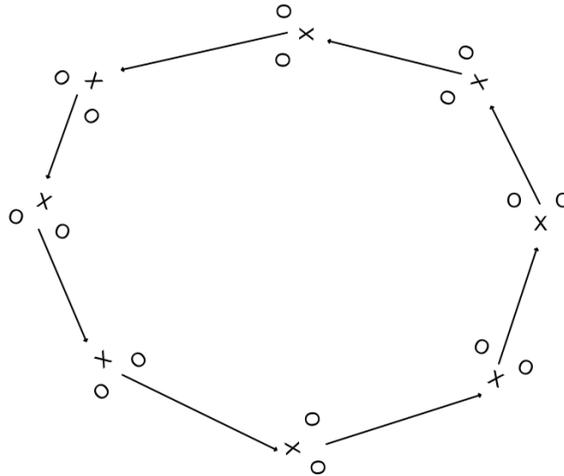
What do you have in your apron?  
It's a pie made of three pigeons.  
Let's sit down and eat it.

While sitting down they all lept up,  
Causing the sea and fish to tremble,  
And the stones on the bottom of the sea.

### I Hear the Mill Wheel Game

This game is adapted from an invented “Pop, Goes the Weasel” game. It is not a traditional game connected with the French-Canadian song. However, students enjoy playing it, and the game helps teach the concept of friction.

**Game instructions:** Students get in groups of three holding hands to create small circles. (See diagram. Two are O’s and one is an X.) The small circles together create one large circle. All circles move counter-clockwise in the large circle. The students who are not part of a small circle stand in the middle of the large circle.



Every time students sing the word “turning” the O’s let go of the X’s hands, lift up their arms, and the X’s go under and move forward to the next set of O’s. However, there is an extra X (sometimes two depending on numbers in the class) that is trying to “steal” a spot. When the extra X steals a spot, the X without a group becomes the extra X and tries to steal another spot the next time the word “turning” is sung.

