

Comptines

Teacher's Guide

Ages: 5 to 9

Running time: 11:12

Synopsis

Springtime is here. For little girls, it's time to get out the skipping ropes, Bolos and balls, to play hopscotch, and to sing. **Comptines** is about little girls celebrating spring in Montréal. They play joyfully in alleyways, in doorways, in parks and on the street — all to the sound of traditional rhyming games, sung with freshness and spontaneity. The film's title, **Comptines**, means rhyming games or play songs in French.

Pre-viewing

Sing a well-known play song or rhyming game.

Post-viewing

Language Arts

Developing oral communication, reading and writing.

- Make a recording of all the rhyming games or play songs you know.
- Note the songs and rhymes in the film. Which are familiar sounding? Which would you like to learn?
- Teach a play song or rhyming game to someone else who doesn't know it.
- Look for play songs or rhyming games in the library. Learn a new one, and come up with a game to play while singing it.
- As a group, write a new play song.
- How many ways can you think of to have fun with a ball, string and an elastic band?
- List the different uses of play songs or rhyming games.
- Compare play songs or rhyming games associated with boys with those associated with girls. What are the differences? Why do you think these differences exist?

Art - Dance

Developing awareness of a variety of movements.

- Choose a partner and clap hands together while reciting a well-known play song or rhyming game.
- Sing a play song or rhyming game of your choice, while playing with a bolo, skipping rope, elastic band or ball.

Art - Music

Recognizing and using simple musical structures.

- Sing a well-known play song or rhyming game while marking time with your hands.
- Try to find similarities in words and in musical patterns between play songs or rhyming games you know and those sung by your parents or grandparents.