Singing songs and playing games are a fundamental part of a child’s life, no matter where we live or what language we speak. Experience Hispanic-American heritage and traditions with this well-crafted collection of children’s folksongs.

Playfully illustrated with original Uruguayan art, this collection for early childhood through the elementary grades features page-after-page of singable melodies and game instructions, with their cultural background. Both authors are of Cuban origin and have collected songs that will appeal to a wide audience, whether or not you can read music, speak Spanish, or in the case of small children, read at all. English translations, a pronunciation guide, and curricular indices are included. The enclosed CD provides quality demonstration recordings of children singing the songs unaccompanied, as they are traditionally performed.

Perfect for school or home, this collection provides parents and teachers with all the necessary tools for teaching the basic elements of music and Hispanic culture, which will be fun for children today and for generations to come.

**SONGLIST**

**CHILD PLAY**
- Patito, patito
- Aserrín, aserrán
- Dale a la mocita
- Mueve la pata
- Los cinco deditos
- La calabacita
- Manola

**LULLABIES**
- Rau, rau, rau
- Los pollitos
- Duérmete mi niño
- Señora Santana
- Si este niño se durmiera

**SONGS JUST FOR FUN**
- Sal solcito
- ¡Que llueva!
- Yo tenía diez perritos
- El conejo
- Cucú, cantaba la rana
- Estaba la caravela
- La cucaracha
- Calle de calles
- Los seis patitos
- Alegre canta el burro

**ROMANCES**
- Las hijas de Meriño
- Mambrú
- Las señas del esposo

**SINGING GAMES**
- Debajo del puente
- El perrito goloso
- A la rueda, rueda
- Juan Pirulero
- La cojita
- Los unidades
- Don Piruli
- Arroz con leche
- La Marisola

Highly recommended by authors Micheal Houlahan and Philip Tacka, “A la rueda, rueda” also includes valuable cross-referencing to the teaching strategies and objectives in their best seller, “Kodály Today.”
Don Pirulí
(Mr. Pirulí)

This variant from the U.S.-Mexico borderlands is known in other Spanish-speaking regions by a variety of names: San Severino or San Serafin in Cuba, San Serenín de la buena vida in Spain, or just San Selerín in Costa Rica. It usually incorporates a long list of trades acted out by the players each time the verse is repeated. Some may no longer be a common part of modern life: los escribientes (the scribes), los campaneros (the bell ringers), las tejedoras (weavers), and the like.

Traditional

Variant from Rio Grande Valley, Brownsville, Texas; used by permission.

Singing circle, rueda ( diy = ca. 144)

1. Don Pirulí, a la buena, buena, buena
   Así, así, así.

   Así a las planchadoras. Así, así, así, así nos gusta más.

1. Don Pirulí, speak to us in a nice way,
   like so, like so, like so.
   Like so to the ironing ladies.
   Like so, like so we like it better.

2. . . . las barrendoras . . . sweepers
3. . . . las tejedoras . . . weavers
4. . . . los carpinteros . . . carpenters
5. . . . los pescadores . . . fishermen
6. . . . las cocineras . . . cooks
7. . . . los carniceros . . . the butchers

The “game” to this song consists of thinking up different occupations and acting them out. On the first line of the song, the children can clap the beat, or walk around in a circle. On the second line, one child in the center acts out the occupation of his/her choice. See Translation for some occupation ideas.