







"Gobble," said the turkey, "Cackle," said the hen.Off they go to have some fun, Gobbling, cackling on the run, For the gate is open.

Game

All friends sit in a circle (ensure there are no gaps! This is the "pasture" and the friends around the circle are the fence!). Two friends are chosen: one as the Turkey, and one as the Hen. The Turkey and Hen act as their assigned animals in the middle of the circle.

The first verse is sung, and at "when the gate was open," the friends around the circle make a "gate" (an opening in the circle). The Turkey and Hen can now dance and play outside the circle, through the second verse.

During the second verse, a third friend is chosen as the Farmer. At the end of the song, the Farmer tries to herd the two silly birds back through the "gate".

Younger friends may enjoy the imaginative character play of this calmer version, while older friends may enjoy a chasing/tag element at the end the second verse (for example, the birds must run one time around the circle and make it back in the gate to be "safe".

This game is not original to the folk song, and other creative ideas are welcome to the story of the song, but remember to always focus on a beautiful and clear sound, not sacrificing quality for the sake of "fun". Both can exist simultaneously!

SMUSIC LIT