

A CHRISTMAS DANCE
by "Jo" Bemis, Natick, Massachusetts

For boys and girls, or girls only. (About 4th grade.)
MUSIC: Rudolph, the Red-nosed Reindeer; use chorus only
(sing it or use record).

FORMATION:

- (A) Four couples in a square; with one extra to be Rudolph.
- (B) Same, but with four extras to take turns as Rudolph.
- (C) Three, four, five or six couples in a circle, with a corresponding number of extras; or as in (A) with one extra, for Rudolph.

DIRECTIONS:

- I "Rudolph the Red-etc." . . . Circle left; R. on outside skips to right. "And if you" etc . . . Circle, and R. reverse, back to place. Sliding step.
- II "All of the other" etc. . . . Heel-toe polka to center; hands palm to palm with partner, and lowered in direction. R. in center.
"Used to laugh" etc. . . . Heel-toe polka out, hands lowered outward.
NOTE: small children: R. places hands on head back-to and fingers up, for antlers. Repeat action II.
- III "Then on foggy" etc. . . . couple one (and each couple in turn for the repetitions of the dance) goes to the center, circles three-hands with R. twice around, so that their backs are to their home position; pops R. under so that he faces out.
"Won't you guide" etc. . . . All the couples line up behind R.
- IV "Then how the reindeer" etc. . . . R. leads them in a cast off double—i.e. they skip down one side and up the center.
- V "Rudolph the Red-nosed" etc. . . . All swing partners to place in the square (or circle if using (C). Two-hand swing is used. R. swings one of the couple who just did the circle three-hands with him and takes his place; the replaced one becomes R. for the next round. If using (B), this R. simply drops out, and another extra is R. for the next round.
Repeat from beginning . . . NOTE: each couple in turn pops R. so that he faces outward at their home position: this is the hardest thing in the dance to put across.

STEPS: except for the Heel-Toe Polka, any the music inspires—usually skip.