

Dancing With Children



Cha Cha Slide

Mr. C the Slide Man, also known as D.J. Casper or Willie Perry, recorded the album *Cha Cha Slide* in 2000. He issued "Cha Cha Slide Part 2" in 2009. The words and steps below offer a simple version of the dance. Kidz Bop Party Songs Cd is censored for children, also offers *Cha Cha Slide* sung by children.

While clapping hands, as directed by the singer, bounce up and down in time to the music.

Everybody clap your hands.

Clap, clap, clap, clap your hands. Clap, clap, clap, clap your hands.

All right, we're gonna do the basic steps.

To the left. (Take sliding steps to the left.)

Take it back now, y'all. (slide back to the right.)

One hop this time. (hop forward.)

Right foot, let's stomp. (stomp with right foot.)

Left foot, let's stomp. (stomp with left foot.)

Cha cha real smooth. (sway hips as you step forward and back.)

Turn it out. (step, making a quarter turn to the right.) (repeat)

Cupid Shuffle

Rhythm and blues singer Cupid made a hit with this dance on his album, *Time for a Change*. The steps are easy, and Cupid gives directions as he sings. The lyrics for the simplest part of the dance appear below. Invite children to clap their hands throughout.

To the right, to the right, to the right, to the right. (Take four steps sideways to the right.)

To the left, to the left, to the left, to the left. (step side- ways to the left.)

Now kick, now kick, now kick, now kick. (Move the right heel forward and back, then the left heel, then the right and left again.)

Now walk it by yourself. (step and make a quarter turn to the right.) (repeat)

Macarena

The Spanish pop duo Los del Rio (Those from the River) recorded this song in 1995, and it became a global hit almost overnight. The song is about a woman of the same name or any woman from the La Macarena neighborhood of Seville in Spain.

Because the original lyrics and many videos of this tune are aimed at adults, get a children's version (Sesame Street, Kimbo Educational). Start with feet together, and bounce up and down in time to the music throughout, adding the movements below.

Dale a tu cuerpo alegría, Macarena. (Thrust right arm forward, then left arm.)

Que tu cuerpo es pa' darle alegría y cosa Buena. (Bring right hand to back of neck, then left hand to back of neck.)

Dale a tu cuerpo alegría, Macarena. (Bring right hand to right waist, then left hand to left waist.)

Jeh, Macarena! aaay! (sway body right and left, then jump a quarter turn.) (repeat)

YMCA

The Village People, a six-member disco group that started in Greenwich Village, recorded this song in 1978 as a filler on its album, *Crusin'*. Fans created the dance, using their arms to form the letters, and made it enormously popular.

Today the dance is often performed at weddings and sports events. According to one source, the largest YMCA dance occurred in 2008 when the Village People performed it at halftime of the Sun Bowl in El Paso where 40,148 fans danced it.

Use a marching step throughout the dance, adding movements below. For variation, substitute *W* for *M* and *woman* for *young man*.

Young man, there's no need to feel down.

I said, young man, pick yourself off the ground (raise arms up as if lifting up).

I said, young man (point finger to front), 'cause you're in a new town.
There's no need (thrust right arm up to the right) to

(thrust left arm up to the left) be (thrust right arm down to left) un- (thrust left
arm down to right so arms cross) happy (clap hands).

Young man (point finger to front), there's a place you can go.

I said, young man (point finger to front), when you're short on your dough.

You can stay there (point to the back), and i'm sure you will find

Many ways to have a good time (step right and left, clapping hands on each
beat).

It's fun to stay at the Y (stop, raise arms outward to form a Y), M (bring fingers
to rest on shoulders), C (curve arms to the left) A (bring arms to a point over-
head).

It's fun to stay at the YMCA (repeat).

They have everything for young men to enjoy.

You can hang out with all the boys (step right and left,

Clapping hands on each beat).

It's fun to stay at the Y (stop, raise arms outward to form a Y), M (bring fingers
to rest on shoulders), C (curve arms to the left) A (bring arms to a point over-
head).

It's fun to stay at the YMCA (repeat).

You can get yourself clean, you can have a good meal. you can do whatever

You feel (clap to the beat).