Cobbler Circle
— Christina Assirati

Swinging, swinging, swinging,
Morning bells are ringing,
Sounding bells are sounding,
Monday, Monday morning.

VERSE
My shoes are too small,
Worn and old—
I need new shoes.
Let's go to the cobbler's shop,
And see what he can do.

VERSE
Here we are at the cobbler's shop.
Knock, knock, knock. . .

VERSE
My name is Christopher Cobbler,
And I make fine shoes.
I make long shoes.

VERSE
Look at your feet.
Right foot in front tapping the floor.
Left foot in front tapping on the floor.
Open arms sideways, palms facing up.

SONG
We are walking to the cobbler's shop. (Repeat 3 times)
We are marching . . .
We are crawling . . .
We are skipping . . .
We are tip toeing . . .

VERSE
Right hand in close fist. Left hand forms a “door.”
Right hand “knocking” at left hand.
Then pause while placing right hand behind your right ear (pretending to listen). Repeat three times.

VERSE
You are an important and serious cobbler.
Stand very upright.

VERSE
Arms straight out together in front of your body.
Then, open arms (heart height).
I make short shoes.

I make tall shoes.

I make flat shoes.

My name is Christopher Cobbler,
And I make fine shoes.

VERSE
I make red shoes,
Yellow shoes,
Party shoes,
Outdoor shoes.

SONG
My dear cobbler look at me,
I need new shoes as you can see.
My shoes are far too small,
They do not fit at all.
My dear child come here to me,
What is your size? Just let me see.
I will cut the leather fine and new
To make new shoes for you.

Bring arms almost together, palms facing each other.
Leave a “shoe” distance between them.

Spread arms apart. Left arm down and right arm up.

Bring arms almost together, palms facing each other horizontally a half inch apart.

Right foot pointing forward towards the floor.
Left foot pointing forward toward the floor.
Stand on tip toes.
Stamp feet.

Right foot forward, hands pointing to shoes.

Left foot forward.

Place right foot on left knee and hold right foot with both hands. The sole of foot facing the ceiling.

Place left foot on right knee and hold left foot with both hands. The sole of foot facing the ceiling.

Right foot forward, hands pointing to shoes.

Left foot forward.

Place right foot on left knee and hold right foot with both hands. The sole of foot facing the ceiling.

Place left foot on right knee and hold left foot with both hands. The sole of foot facing the ceiling.
VERSE
Cobbler, cobbler, mend my shoes,
Have it done by half past two.
Stitch it up and stitch it down,
Make them the strongest shoes in town.

GAME
Cobbler, cobbler make me a shoe.
Have it done by half past two.
Cobbler, cobbler tell me please,
Who has shoes that are just like these?

VERSE
There once lived a cobbler,
And he was wee,
He lived in a hole
Of a very big tree.
He had a good neighbor,
And she was a mouse,
She did his wee washing,
And tidied his house.
Each morning at seven,
He heard a wee tap,
And in came the mouse,
In her apron and cap.

Sit down with legs stretched together on the floor in front, toes pointing towards the ceiling, moving back and forth.

Legs stretched together on the floor, heels touching each other, toes facing up, move feet apart keeping heels together (open and close).

Touch your feet (with toes pointing up) with the tip of your fingers touch the side of your feet and move down toward the heels.

Still sitting down, bend knees and stamp feet with all your might.

One player is chosen to be blindfolded and stands in the center of the circle formed by the other players, who are all seated (legs stretched together on the floor, and toes pointing to the ceiling). The seated players recite the verse while the teacher spins the blindfolded player. When verse is finished, blindfolded player chooses a seated player, taps his/her shoes and guesses who it is. Whether the guess is right or wrong, the chosen player now goes to the center and is blindfolded. Repeat game.

Hold left index finger up

Hands together, fingertips and wrists touching, making a hole between hands.

Hold right index finger up.

Right hand gently rubs palms of left hand in circular motion.

Right hand behind right ear, pretending to listen.

Right hand in a fist, “knocks” on left palm.

Hold right index finger up. Run left index finger down right index finger (represents the apron). Then, left finger touches tip of right finger (represents the cap).
She lit a small fire,
And she fetched a wee broom,
She swept and she polished
His wee little room.
To take any wages
She always refused,
So the cobbler said “thank you,”
And mended her shoes.

CLOSING VERSE
I dance with the flowers,
I sing with the sun,
My warmth I send
To everyone.

Notes
The verse “My name is Christopher Cobbler” and the game “Cobbler, cobbler, make me a shoe” are based on material found in You’re Not the Boss of Me! (WECAN, 2007), pages 230-231. The anonymous verse “Cobbler, cobbler, mend my shoe” comes from Spindrift (third edition, Wynstones Press, 1999), page 51. The verse “There once lived a cobbler” is based on the poem “The King Mouse” by Natalie Joan. The sources of the songs used in this circle are unknown.

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