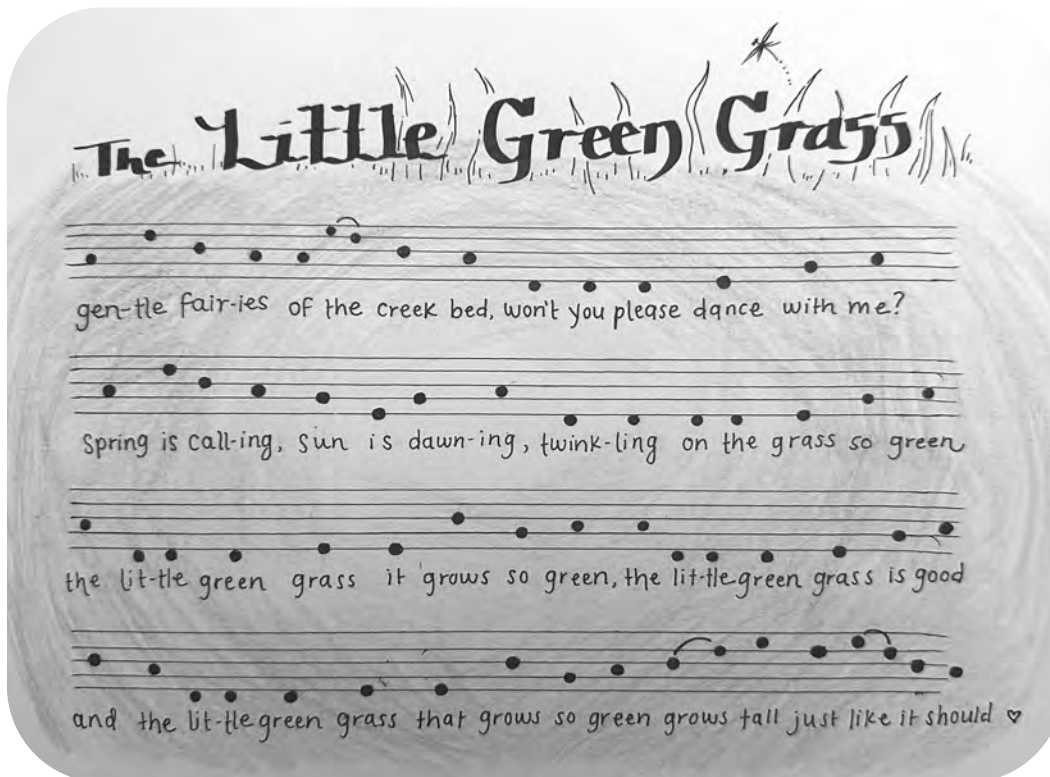


Little Green Grass Circle

~ Casey Powers

This is an early spring circle, accompanied by a mood-of-the-fifth song that I wrote during my teacher training at the Sound Circle Center for Arts and Anthroposophy in 2022. My inspiration for this circle came from a small area of my kindergarten yard, where there is a pond that occasionally fills with a bit of water in the winter. Local frogs feel comfortable enough to make their home there. It's where the children and I let things grow wildly, and it's a special place to honor the elemental beings and small creatures. Unlike other areas of our beautiful play yard, this is not a place to frolic and play in, but one to watch, listen, and observe. We built bridges across this small "creek bed," for the children to journey across and peer over to get a better look at the beautiful life that lives underneath.

This circle is a journey of wonder as little creatures awaken from their winter's rest, and blades of fresh green grass stir with new life surrounding the creek. The refrain, "the little green grass is good," comes from my work with my kindergartners to let the new spring grass grow, to find ourselves in relationship with nature, and to love this tender little wild space just as it is.



Refrain

To be sung holding hands, moving clockwise in a circle, after each verse. Personalizations and substitutions could be made for "creek bed": garden, seaside, river, forest, etc. The creek is personal to me and my children, but the words should be adapted by each teacher with their space in mind.

Gentle fairies of the creek bed, won't you please dance with me?

Spring is calling, sun is dawning, twinkling on the grass so green.

The little green grass it grows so green, the little green grass is good,

And the little green grass that grows so green grows tall just like it should.

Verses

Each verse can be personalized with different movement for each being in the grass. Caterpillar crawling, frog jumps, etc. Some verses can be done seated, as a finger game. There are so many possibilities!

1. *There is someone working hard in the grass by the creek!
Let us look closer and have us a peek.
I wonder who is working deep under the grass,
Caring for the roots, to push the shoots up at last?
A dear little gnome in their mossy green home says,
"May the shoots greet the sun, each and every one!"*
2. *And who is that crawling in the tall green grass?
It's a fuzzy brown caterpillar, crawling, creeping past.
Soon, soon, she'll be wrapped so snugly in her cocoon
For a little rest....but when she's free at last
She'll quietly come awake, give her wings a little shake,
And flitter and flutter so elegantly
Hither and thither through the grass so green.*
3. *And what could that be, a soft little ringing (can you hear the bell?)
Where the light is shining, a small voice is singing.
A fairy is there, though you may not see
Upon wings glistening from behind a nearby tree.
They might tap upon your shoulder, they may whisper in your ear
With the tiniest voice, the faintest whisper, "Please tread lightly here."
(Let's show them how soft our walking feet can be!)*
4. *And who is that jumping with a hop and a plop?
It's a bumpy green frog who just won't stop!
He ribbits and rustles the rising green shoots,
Until he nestles in his bed just next to their roots.
He tucks himself in, warm in the creek bed,
And as the stars shine, he rests his sweet head. ♦*



Photo by Charlotte Fischer from the German edition of *Gnomes and Giants, Pixies and Elves*.

Casey Powers is a kindergarten teacher at the Davis Waldorf School in California. She graduated from Sound Circle Center for Arts in Anthroposophy in 2022 and has a BA in Education and Writing from The Evergreen State College. She is passionate about music, storytelling, elemental beings, and cultivating loving relationships with nature. Casey is honored to be a teacher, finds joy in her work, and learns so much from the children and families in her care.