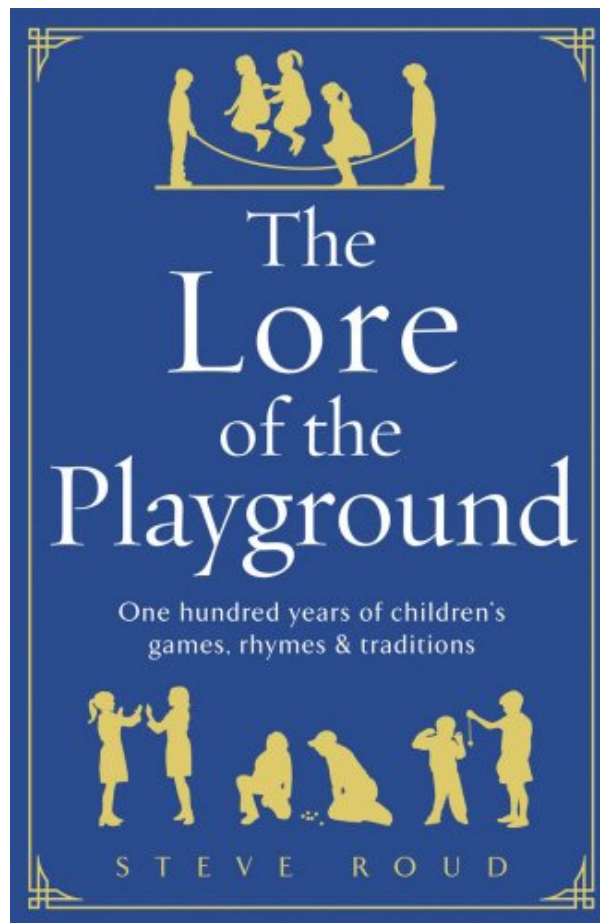
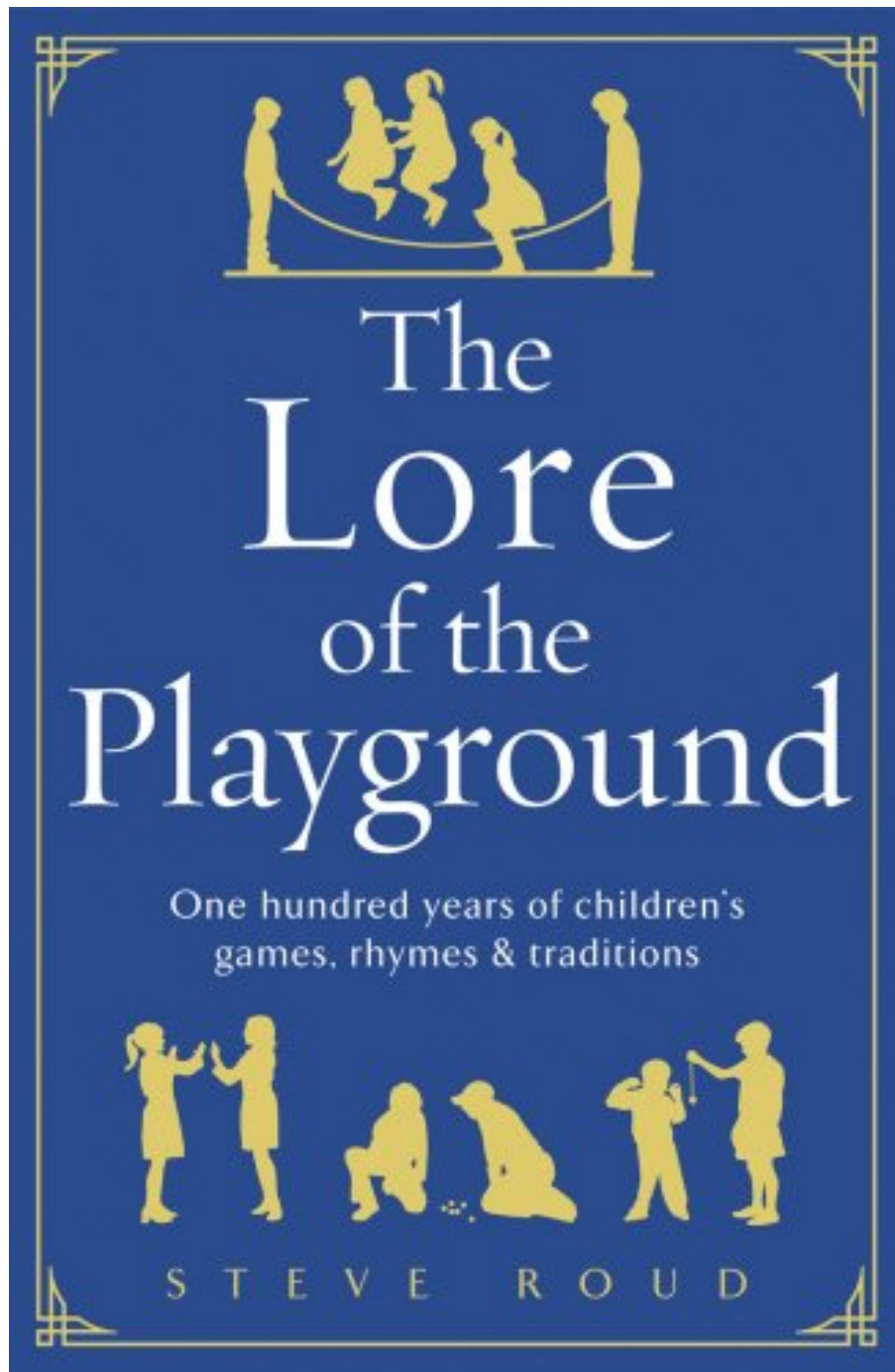


THE LORE OF THE PLAYGROUND: ONE HUNDRED YEARS OF CHILDREN'S GAMES, RHYMES & TRADITIONS BY STEVE ROUD



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"[A] delightful compendium ... Roud's indefatigable research proves that a great variety is still being played ... An appealing picture of our children emerges from this book ... As [it] richly demonstrates, there is much that is new to celebrate" Sunday Times "Based on interviews with hundreds of people aged from eight to 80, Roud has created a fascinating portrait of childhood in Britain" Sun "Fascinating study ... Roud's book celebrates a creativity that is as amazing as it is anonymous ... a terrific book - full of detail, nostalgia and surprises and relentlessly upbeat" The Times "Roud traces enduring traditions, debunks cherished myths and proves beyond all doubt that commentators who insist that children no longer know how to play are simply not looking, or listening, carefully enough" Time Out "Mr Roud has collected skipping rhymes, nonsense rhymes, "rude and horrible rhymes", clapping games, and much more, and compared them to the lore of old" Times Literary Supplement

About the Author

Steve Roud has been researching British folklore for over thirty years and is the joint author of the Oxford Dictionary of English Folklore, plus other books on traditional drama and folk song. He also compiles the Folk Song Index and the Broadside Index, two internationally known computer databased of traditional folk and popular song.

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A fascinating survey of 100 years of children's games and rhymes

From conkers to marbles, from skipping to tag, not forgetting "one potato, two potato" and "eeny, meeny, miny, mo," Lore of the Playground explores the world of Britain's playgrounds, and looks at the games children have enjoyed and the rhymes they have chanted over the past hundred years and more. Each generation, it emerges, has had its own favorites—"Knock Down Ginger" in the 1950s, "Chain Tig" in the 1970s. Some pastimes, such as skipping, have proved remarkably resilient, their complicated rules carefully handed down from one class to the next. Many are now the stuff of distant memory. And some traditions have proved to be strongly regional, loved by children in one part of Britain, unknown to those elsewhere. All are brilliantly and meticulously recorded by Steve Roud, who has drawn on interviews with hundreds of people aged from eight to 80, to create a fascinating picture of all our childhoods.

- Sales Rank: #3690137 in Books
- Published on: 2010-12-01
- Released on: 2010-11-01
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 9.50" h x 1.90" w x 6.00" l, 2.05 pounds
- Binding: Hardcover
- 576 pages

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