



# Fèis time

## ACTIVITY SHEET

### THE WITCHES REEL

#### Lyrics

Cummer go ye afore, cummer go ye  
If ye willna go afore, cummer let me  
Ring a ring a widdershins  
Linkin, lithely widdershins  
Cummer, carlin, crone and queen  
Roon' go we

Cummer go ye afore, cummer go ye  
If ye willna go afore, cummer let me  
Ring a ring a widdershins  
Loupin' lightly widdershins  
Kilted coats and fleein' hair  
Three times three

Cummer go ye afore, cummer go ye  
If ye willna go afore, cummer let me  
Ring a ring a widdershins  
Whirlin', skirlin', widdershins  
De'il tak the hindmost, Wha e'er she be!

## Activity 1

The lyrics of this song are the first written record of a reel in Scotland! They were recorded during a witch trial. Can you make a magic potion using things you find in the garden / outside?

## Activity 2

Below are some common superstitions, can you match them to the correct item?

- If this happens, you will have 7 years bad luck!
- If this creature comes into the house, it brings good luck!
- If you leave this on a bed, it can mean there will be an argument.
- Opening this inside will bring you bad luck!
- Walking under one of these is bad luck!
- If this itches, someone is saying good things about you.
- If this walks towards you, it will bring good luck.



- Black cat / broken mirror / frog / ladder / ear / umbrella / hat

## Translations

- cummer – woman/girl/witch
- afore – before/ahead
- widdershins – wrong way around / anti-clockwise (implies bad luck or disaster)
- linkin' – move fast/skip
- lithely – athletic/graceful
- carlin & crone – old woman
- loupin' – jump/spring
- whirlin' – moving in a circle, with speed
- skirlin' – screech/scream
- hindmost – last/at the back