

FOLKWAYS RECORDS FC 7555

# GETTING IT TOGETHER and other NURSERY SONGS by Edgar Kendricks

The Traffic Lights  
Count to Twenty

Parts of the Body  
The Robins

Song of the Alphabets  
The Circus Song

Song of Colors  
Seven Days of the Week

The Indian Song  
Beautiful Children



M  
1997  
K33  
G394  
1974

MUSIC LP

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SIDE 1

1. Getting It Together (2:15)
2. The Traffic Lights (1:10)
3. Count to Twenty (3:20)
4. Parts of the Body (5:10)
5. The Robins (2:30)

SIDE 2

1. Song of the Alphabets (4:00)
2. The Circus Song (1:20)
3. Song of Colors (2:40)\*
4. The Seven Days of the Week (2:35)
5. Beautiful Children (5:20)

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GETTING IT  
TOGETHER  
and other  
NURSERY SONGS  
by Edgar Kendricks

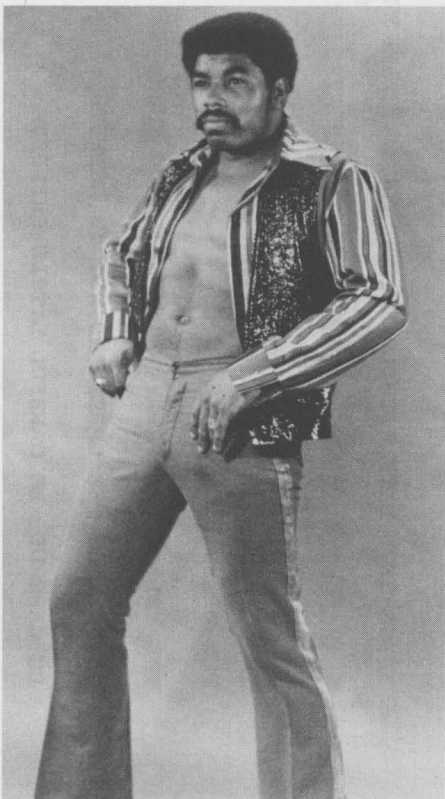
DESCRIPTIVE NOTES ARE INSIDE POCKET

COVER PHOTO BY EMILIO RODRIGUEZ  
COVER DESIGN BY RONALD CLYNE

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# GETTING IT TOGETHER AND OTHER NURSERY SONGS

Sung by Edgar Kendricks



WITH THE WORLD IN SUCH TURMOIL AS IT IS TODAY, THE YOUNG CHILDREN ARE AT A GREAT DISADVANTAGE NOT KNOWING THE BASIC FUNDAMENTALS OF COUNTING AND KNOWING THEIR ALPHABETS. SO IT PLEASES ME VERY MUCH TO KNOW THAT I HAVE THE ABILITY TO REACH OUT AND OFFER AS MUCH TO THEM AS I POSSIBLE CAN.

PARENTS SOMETIME, DO NOT HAVE THE TIME TO GIVE THEIR CHILDREN THE ADEQUATE ATTENTION THAT THEY NEED, SO THROUGH MY CHILDREN'S SONGS I AM ABLE TO EXTEND A HAND, AND RELATE TO CHILDREN ALL OVER THE WORLD.

I ENJOY THE FACT THAT I AM ABLE TO OFFER TO OTHERS SOMETHING THAT I AM CAPABLE OF DOING. IT IS MY PLEASURE AND HAS BEEN MY GREATEST HONOR AND PRIVILEGE TO HAVE BEEN PLACED IN THIS MOST REWARDING POSITION.

I BEGAN WORKING WITH CHILDREN WHEN I WAS A CHILD. I TAUGHT MY THREE YOUNGER SISTERS, GLYCERINE, OLLIE AND JANICE, EVERYTHING THAT I LEARNED IN SCHOOL. THEREFORE, WHEN THEY STARTED TO SCHOOL, THEY KNEW THEIR ALPHABETS, THE DAYS OF THE WEEK, MONTHS OF THE YEAR, COLORS, AND COULD COUNT FROM 1 THROUGH 20. DURING THOSE DAYS WE DIDN'T HAVE KINDERGARDEN CLASSES.

WHEN I WAS A CHILD, I TOOK MY HOMEWORK AND MADE POEMS AND TUNES TO THEM WHICH SIMPLY MEAN, I SANG MY HOMEWORK. MY LITTLE SISTERS JUST LOVED IT. WE SAT BY THE FIRESIDE AND I TAUGHT THEM THROUGH MUSIC. THEY LIKED THAT METHOD IN DOING THEIR HOMEWORK.

DURING THAT TIME, NOBODY COULD HAVE TOLD ME THAT MY PROFESSION WOULD BE WORKING WITH CHILDREN. WELL, IT'S TRUE, AND I LOVE IT.

THROUGH THE YEARS, I HAVE APPEARED ON THE SAME PROGRAM WITH ISSAC HAYES, O.C. SMITH, WILSON PICKETT, JERRY BUTLER, MARVIN GAYE, NIKKI GIOVANNI (COMMUNITY CHOIR) ETC.

I ALSO WORKED WITH "LISTEN MY BROTHER" (FROM THE WORLD FAMOUS APOLLO THEATER).

I WAS VOCAL COACH, WRITER, ARRANGER, FOR LORETTA LONG, WHO PLAYS SUSAN ON (SESAME STREET). I WROTE THE ALPHABET SONG, ALSO COUNT FROM 1 THROUGH 20 FOR HER CHILDREN'S ALBUM, WHICH MADE HER ALBUM A BIG SUCCESS.

BY LISTENING, AND SINGING ALONG WITH THIS ALBUM, I HOPE THAT IT WILL GIVE EVERY CHILD THE AMBITION, EAGERNESS, AND THE DESIRE TO LEARN, BECAUSE THIS IS SOMETHING THAT THEY NEED TO HELP THEM START LIFE IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION.

I APPRECIATE THE FACT OF HAVING A TALENT IN WHICH I AM ABLE TO COMMUNICATE WITH A GREAT DEAL OF CHILDREN OF ALL RACES, CREED, AND COLOR AT ANY GIVEN TIME. MY GREATEST PLEASURE IS BEING ABLE TO COMMUNICATE WITH A LOT OF CHILDREN THROUGH THE YEARS IN RECORDINGS, TELEVISION, PARK DATES, AND THE BOARD OF EDUCATION.

IT MAY SEEM UNBELIEVABLE, BUT THE CHILDREN HAVE GIVEN ME AN EVEN GREATER PLEASURE IN SHOWING ME THEIR EAGERNESS TO LEARN.

Respectfully Yours,  
Edgar Kendricks

M  
1997  
K33  
6394  
1974

MUSIC LP

GETTING IT TOGETHER

SMILING TOGETHER  
LAUGHING TOGETHER  
SINGING TOGETHER  
PLAYING TOGETHER

WORKING TOGETHER, SHARING WITH EACH OTHER, TREATING ONE ANOTHER  
LIKE SISTERS AND BROTHERS

SMILING TOGETHER (TWICE)  
IS FUN  
LAUGHING TOGETHER (TWICE)  
IS FUN  
SINGING TOGETHER (TWICE)  
IS FUN  
PLAYING TOGETHER (TWICE)  
IS FUN

REPEAT (2nd AND 1 VERSE IN TEMPO)

SMILING, LAUGHING, SINGING, PLAYING, WORKING, SHARING WITH ONE  
ANOTHER IS FUN

Words & Music by Edgar Kendricks

THE TRAFFIC LIGHTS

BE CAREFUL LITTLE CHILDREN HOW YOU WALK ACROSS THE STREET  
THE CROSSING GUARD MAYBE OFF HER BEAT  
THE RED LIGHT SAYS STOP  
THE GREEN LIGHT SAYS GO  
THE YELLOW LIGHT SAY WAIT UNTIL YOU KNOW  
SO WALK ON THE GREEN AND NOT IN BETWEEN  
BE CAREFUL, BE CAREFUL LITTLE CHILDREN

COUNT TO TWENTY

COME ON CHILDREN GIVE US A HAND, COUNT TO TWENTY IF YOU CAN  
COME ON CHILDREN, DON'T BE SHY  
YOU CAN COUNT TO TWENTY IF YOU TRY  
COME ON CHILDREN AND DON'T BE SLOW  
WE'ER GOING TO COUNT TO TWENTY NOW HERE WE GO:

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20

YOU BETTER LEARN (COUNT TO TWENTY) TO COUNT TO TWENTY (COUNT TO TWENTY)  
BOYS AND GIRLS (COUNT TO TWENTY) I SAID IT (COUNT TO TWENTY) IF YOU LEARN  
TO COUNT TO TWENTY (COUNT TO TWENTY) YOU'LL NEVER REGRET IT (COUNT TO TWENTY)  
GIRLS: (12345678910) WE'ER ONLY HALF WAY SO HEAR WE GO AGAIN.

BOYS: (11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20)

BOYS AND GIRLS YOU CAN EARN PLENTY, FIRST YOU MUST KNOW HOW TO COUNT  
TO TWENTY

HEY! CAN YOU COUNT BY TWO'S ?

OKAY I BET YOU CAN'T, IF YOU CAN'T JUST REPEAT AFTER ME OKAY

2 4 6 8 10 12 14 16 18 20

HEY! CAN YOU COUNT ANY?

1234 (1234) DON'T STOP COUNTING THERE'S STILL SOME MORE

5678 (5678) COUNT YOUR NUMBERS AND DON'T BE LATE

9 10 11 12 (9 10 11 12) IF YOU PRACTICE YOU WON'T FAIL

13 14 15 16 (13 14 15 16) YOU BETTER KEEP ON COUNTING

17 18 19 20 (17 18 19 20) TELL ME CHILDREN CAN YOU COUNT ANY.

HOLD IT! 5 10 15 20 TELL ME CHILDREN CAN YOU COUNT ANY

OH! YOU BETTER LEARN, TO COUNT TO 20, BOYS AND GIRLS, I SAID IT

IF YOU LEARN TO COUNT TO TWENTY, YOU'LL NEVER REGRET IT.

123 LOOK AT ME

456 MY NUMBERS ARE FIXED

789 I'M DOING FINE

10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 LEARN TO COUNT TO TWENTY

Words & Music by Edgar Kendricks

PARTS OF THE BODY

WE'ER GOING TO START FROM THE HEAD, GOING DOWN TO THE FEET

NAMING PARTS OF THE BODY RIGHT ON THE BEAT.

THE FIRST TIME WE ARE GOING TO NAME THEM

THE SECOND TIME WE WANT YOU TO JOIN US.

CHILDREN, CHILDREN BE QUIET, YOU CAN'T LEARN BY MAKING FUSS.

HERE WE GO!

HEAD, EARS, EYES, NOSE, MOUTH, NECK, SHOULDERS, ARMS, HANDS, HIPS

LEGS, FEET.

WE'ER GOING TO REPEAT, RIGHT ON THE BEAT, NAMING PARTS OF THE BODY

FROM SESAME STREET.

HEAD (HEAD TO THINK WITH)

EARS (EARS TO HEAR WITH)

EYES (EYES TO SEE WITH)

NOSE (NOSE TO SMELL WITH)

MOUTH (MOUTH TO TALK WITH)

HANDS (HANDS TO WORK WITH)

ARMS (TO DO THE JERK WITH)

PUT YOUR HANDS ON YOUR HIPS (PUT YOUR HANDS ON YOUR HIPS)

AND LET YOUR BACK BONE SLIP (AND LET YOUR BACK BONE SLIP)

(REPEAT) SHAKE IT TO THE EAST, SHAKE IT TO THE WEST

SHAKE IT TO THE ONE THAT YOU LOVE THE BEST

THE MOST IMPORTANT PART, OF THE BODY IS THE HEART

IT PUMPS BLOOD ALL OVER THE BODY, BEATS LIKE A DRUM AT A PARTY

WIGGLE IN YOUR SHOULDERS, DANCE IN YOUR FEET

NAME THE PARTS OF THE BODY ON SESAME STREET.

Words & Music by Edgar Kendricks

THE ROBINS

I HEAR TWO ROBINS IN A TREE, SINGING MERRILY  
THEY SING FOR YOU, THEY SING FOR ME  
SPRING IS HERE YOU SEE  
THEY BUILD A NEST UP IN A TREE FOR THEIR FAMILY  
THEN WHEN THEY GROW UP  
THEY'LL SING FOR YOU  
THEY'LL SING FOR ME

Words & Music by Edgar Kendricks

SONG OF THE ALPHABET

- A FOR APPLE BRIGHT RED AND GAY
- B FOR BANANA I ATE ONE TODAY
- C FOR CAT WHO CHARMED A RAT
- D FOR DOG WHO CHASED A CAT
- E FOR ELEPHANT JUMPING WITH ZEST
- F FOR FROG WHO JUMPS THE BEST
- G FOR GOAT WHO EATS ALL DAY
- H FOR HORSE WHO EATS THE HAY
- I FOR ICE CREAM YUMMY YUMMY OOOOH
- J FOR JUNE, JESSIE, JACK AND JANICE TOO
- K FOR KING SITTING ON A HILL
- L FOR LILLIES (THOSE ARE FLOWERS) OF THE FIELD
- M FOR MILK A WELL BALANCE DIET
- N FOR NURSE DRESSED UP IN WHITE
- O FOR OAKMEAL FOR BREAKFAST WE EAT
- P FOR PEACHES FRUITY AND SWEET
- Q FOR QUEEN WHO LOVES THE KING
- R FOR RIVER RAILROAD AND RING
- S FOR SNOWBALLS FALLING DOWN
- T FOR TOYS FOR GIRLS AND BOYS
- U FOR UMBRELLA UNIFORM TOO
- V FOR VOWELS A-E-I-O-U SOMETIME Y
- W FOR WATER H<sub>2</sub>O

continued

X FOR XYLOPHONE 1 2 3 4

Y FOR YOU AND YO YO TOO

Z FOR ZEBRA PLAYING IN A ZOO

THOSE ARE THE ALPHABETS, NOW WE ARE THROUGH

WE DID THEM EXACTLY FOR YOU, YOU AND YOU

BOYS AND GIRLS LEARN THEM BETTER AND BETTER

YOU MUST KNOW ALL 26 LETTERS.

Words & Music by Edgar Kendricks

#### THE CIRCUS SONG

THE CIRCUS IS A JOLLY PLACE FOR ANY ONE TO BE  
WITH THINGS TO EAT, AND THINGS TO HEAR, AND MANY THINGS TO SEE  
BUT I SIT VERY QUIETLY, QUIET EASED AND PLEASED, AND WATCH  
THE ACROBATIC MAN WHO CLIMBS THE HIGH TRAPEZE

#### SONG OF COLORS

PINK AND PURPLE, RED, BROWN AND BLUE

ORANGE AND YELLOW, BLACK AND WHITE TOO.

PINK AND PURPLE, BROWN AND BLUE

I LOVE PRETTY COLORS YES I DO.

I LIKE THE GREEN THAT SPRING WILL WEAR

I LIKE THE BLUE THAT SUMMER CAN SHARE

I LIKE THE ORANGE OF EARLY FALL,

WHITE SNOWFLAKES BEST OF ALL.

Words & Music by Edgar Kendricks



THE SEVEN DAYS OF THE WEEK

(REPEAT)

SUNDAY, MONDAY, TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY, FRIDAY, SATURDAY,  
SEVEN DAYS OF THE WEEK.

SUNDAY GO TO CHURCH

MONDAY GO TO SCHOOL

TUESDAY LISTEN TO THE TEACHER AND DON'T SLEEP

WEDNESDAY STUDY HARD

THURSDAY TAKE A TEST

FRIDAY CHECK OUT YOUR SCORE, DID YOU DO YOUR VERY BEST?

SATURDAY IS THE SEVENTH DAY

SUNDAY STARTS OVER AGAIN

EVERYBODY LOVES SMART CHILDREN, SMART CHILDREN ARE MY FRIENDS.

WAKE UP CHILDREN DON'T SLEEP

WE ARE GOING TO LEARN THE SEVEN DAYS OF THE WEEK

SUNDAY, MONDAY, TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY, FRIDAY, SATURDAY

(SEVEN DAYS OF THE WEEK) (REPEAT AND FADE OUT)

Words & Music by Edgar Kendricks

THE INDIAN SONG

INDIAN BUILDINGS VERY TALL

BUILDING WIGWAMS PLEASE DON'T FALL

BUILD THOSE TEPEES VERY HIGH

BUILD THOSE BUILDING UP TO THE SKY.

ONCE I MET A LITTLE INDIAN GIRL WAY OUT WEST

I ASKED HER, HER NAME AND SHE REPLIED

SOSO MARCI LENA OLA

SHE WAS ONLY THREE AND COULD NOT SPEAK MUCH ENGLISH

THE ONLY WORDS SHE SPOKE THAT I KNEW WAS

SOSO MARCI LENA OLA

Words & Music by Edgar Kendricks

BEAUTIFUL CHILDREN

MY BEST FRIENDS ARE CHILDREN  
A CHILD MEANS THE WHOLE WORLD TO ME  
A CHILD WILL DO RIGHT IF THE PARENTS AND TEACHERS TRAIN HIM  
EVERY CHILD IN THE WORLD IS BEAUTIFUL, CAN'T YOU SEE

OLDER SISTERS AND BROTHERS LET THE LITTLE ONE'S WATCH TV  
LET HIM TURN THE CHANNELS AND SEE WHAT HE WANTS TO SEE  
HE IS JUST A CHILD, SO TREAT HIM MEEK AND MILD  
GIVE HIM TENDER CARE AND HE WON'T GO WILD

EVERY CHILD IS BEAUTIFUL WHETHER FROM NEAR OR FAR  
WHETHER FROM GERMANY, WHETHER FROM RUSSIA OR AFRICA  
WHETHER FROM CHINA, BOLIVIA, AUSTRALIA OR INDONESIAN  
EVERY CHILD IS BEAUTIFUL IN AMERICA

STOP IT, DON'T SEPARATE THE BLACK CHILD FROM THE WHITE  
LET THEM PLAY TOGETHER AND TEACH THEM WRONG FROM RIGHT  
STOP IT, DON'T SEPARATE THE YELLOW CHILD FROM THE BROWN  
LET THEM WALK HAND IN HAND ALL OVER TOWN

BEAUTIFUL CHILDREN, WONDERFUL CHILDREN, MARVELOUS CHILDREN,  
ADORABLE CHILDREN, SWEET LITTLE CHILDREN, CUTE, PRETTY LITTLE CHILDREN  
EVERY CHILD IN THE WORLD IS BEAUTIFUL, OH YES, EVERY CHILD IS BEAUTIFUL

Words & Music by Edgar Kendricks