

# The Circle Game

11 11 23

Joni Mitchell

intro: C riff to F C riff to F C riff to F C\*



C F C C F G7\*\*  
 Yesterday a child came out to wonder. Caught a dragon-fly inside a jar  
 C F Em7 F C F C\*  
 Fearful when the sky was full of thunder ...and tearful at the falling of a star

**CHORUS:** c G F C C G F C  
 And the seasons they go round and round and the painted ponies go up and down  
 F C F  
 We're captive on a carousel of time We can't return, we can only look  
 Em7 F Cmaj7 F G C\*  
 be-hind from where we came And go round and round and round in the circle game  
*(repeat from "And go..." above with ritard after final CHORUS to end)*

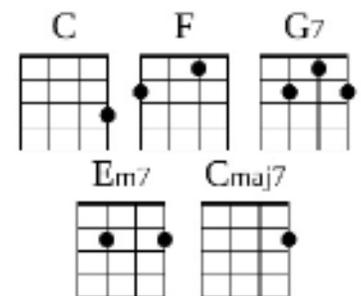
C F C C F G7\*\*  
 Then the child moved 10 times round the seasons Skated over 10 clear frozen streams  
 C F Em7 F C F C\*  
 Words like "when you're older" must appease him And promises of "someday" make his dreams

## repeat CHORUS

C F C C F G7\*\*  
 16 springs and 16 summers gone now Cartwheels turn to car wheels thru the town  
 C F Em7  
 And they tell him take your time it won't be long now,  
 F C F C\*  
 'til you drag your feet and slow the circles down

## repeat CHORUS

C F C  
 So the years spin by and now the boy is twenty,  
 C F G\*\*  
 Though his dreams have lost some grandeur coming true  
 C F Em7  
 There'll be new dreams maybe better dreams and plenty.  
 F C F C\  
 Before the last revolving year is through



## final CHORUS