Kenyan Songs with Makobi

Lesson 2

"Mwana wa Mbeli"

CALL: Mwana wa mbeli, bayaye*
RESPONSE: Mwana wa mbeli

CALL: Bayaye

RESPONSE: Mwana wa mbeli, ne shikhoyelo

CALL: Leri makura ka mwa kula RESPONSE: Mwana wa mbeli CALL: khubeshe mwana

RESPONSE: Mwana wa mbeli, ne shikhoyelo

CALL: [Kaluna]** weru nu Mmwana wa mbeli, bayaye

RESPONSE: Mwana wa mbeli CALL: Nuwundi noho, bayaye

RESPONSE: Mwana wa mbeli, ne shikhoyelo

CALL: Mwana wa mbeli na khulumakhu***

RESPONSE: Mwana wa mbeli

CALL: Walula muno

RESPONSE: Mwana wa mbeli, ne shikhoyelo

"The Firstborn"

CALL: The firstborn [Hey, hey]
RESPONSE: The firstborn

CALL: [Hey, hey]

RESPONSE: The firstborn is a source of pride

CALL: Bring the oil that you bought

RESPONSE: The firstborn CALL: To apply on the child

RESPONSE: The firstborn is a source of pride

CALL: Our [instert name]* is the firstborn

RESPONSE: The firstborn

CALL: Is this the one or is there another one RESPONSE: The firstborn is a source of pride

CALL: The firstborn causes pain

RESPONSE: The firstborn

CALL: Very painful

RESPONSE: The firstborn is a source of pride

^{*}Bayaye is a shout to get someone or a crowd's attention.

^{**}Part of the tradition is calling people's names into the celebration. Have your students practice singing their own names or names of others in the class during the "call sections."

^{***}Khulumakhu literally means "to bite" and refers to labor pains.