



Games ALL Kids Can Play

All of the below listed games can be adapted to accommodate any and all participants.

Tag

It seems that everyone knows how to play tag, but just in case it wasn't in your childhood game-playing repertoire, here is how you play. A group of kids decides who will start out as being "it." That person chases the other people around, trying to tag one of them with their hand. The newly tagged person is now "it." There is often the rule of "no tag-backs" where you can't tag the person who just tagged you. The game ends when everyone is tired of playing.

TV Tag

A variation of Freeze Tag where the person unfreezing the frozen player has to call out a TV show title. That show, then can't be used again during that game.

Simon Says

This game can be played anywhere, even in a car or other small space. One person is Simon and starts by saying, "Simon says, '<insert action here>.'" Everyone must then do the action. However, if Simon makes an action request without saying, "Simon says" to begin the request, anyone who does that action is out. The last person still playing in the end will be Simon for the next round.

Four Square

This ball game is played on a square court further divided into four smaller squares, numbered one through four. One player stands in each of the squares, with the highest ranked player in number one, lowest in number four. You bounce the ball among the players, bouncing once in the other person's square before that person catches it. When I played this as a kid, we had countless additional rules to choose from. The person in square one got to choose the rules. Anyone who violates the rules will have to move down in the ranking, or be eliminated with another player rotating in to square four.



Parachute

Fun for kids of all ages, this game involves a large round parachute, preferably with handles, with people holding the parachute all around the edges. It helps if someone is in charge telling people what to do. Players can just ruffle the parachute up and down a little bit, they can go all the way up and all the way down, or all the way up and then run underneath, sitting on the edge of the parachute, which can create a bubble of air with everyone inside. Players can also place light objects such as wiffle balls or beanbags on top of the parachute, and make them jump by ruffling the parachute. Also, one person can sit in the middle of the parachute and everyone ruffles it near the ground. If there is a smooth floor and a light child, the child can sit in the middle on top of the parachute and everyone else can walk partway around still holding the parachute edge. Then everyone pulls backward, spinning the child. There are countless variations.

Bottle Bash Soccer

In order to play this game properly, you will preferably need a soccer ball, and at least ten clean 2-liter bottles filled with just enough water to keep them upright. Teams should be in two teams of at least four members. Once each team has created a line of five bottles two feet apart from each other and about thirty feet from the other team, it is time to begin. The goal is to knock down the opposing team's bottles while still protecting theirs. Fortunately, no boundaries are set allowing the ball to be kicked anywhere. Every time a bottle gets knocked down, possession is changed. In the end, this game is great for hand-eye coordination as well as learning the values of teamwork.