

Old-School Games

Introduction

The Growing Up Gallery takes us back to the 1950s and 1960s, a time when Singapore faced many challenges and uncertainties as we fought for independence. Despite the challenges, the children of this post-war generation were still able to enjoy happy childhood years. This gallery shows us how they lived and played together in their *kampung*, school, and popular entertainment venues. Look closely at the artefacts such as old report books, school trophies, iconic movie posters, the big glass display of toys, and many more!

Some discussion questions for educators and their students:

1. What was life like in the *kampungs*? How is it the same or different from where you live today?
2. Can you spot a bicycle in the gallery? Do you know who it belonged to? Many children and teenagers walked or cycled from their *kampungs* to their schools in the past. How do you get to school today?
3. In the 1950s and 1960s, the New World, Great World and Happy World amusement parks were popular places for recreation. What activities and performances took place there? Where do you go and what do you do to relax?
4. Take a look at the movie posters. Have you watched any of them before? What are some famous movies today?
5. What is your favourite toy/game? Try to spot the toys below in the Growing Up Gallery! Are they similar to any games you play today?



Now, let's explore some of the old-school games and try playing them yourself!

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Games on Quiet Mornings Paper Ball



Throw the ball but don't let it drop!

Number of players: 3 

Remember to find **2 more** players before starting your game.

Follow the steps below and let's play!

1



Take one ball.

2



Blow into the hole.

3



Make a circle with 2 friends.

4



Hold the ball with both hands.

5



Throw the ball to a friend.

6



Friend catches the ball.

7



If the ball drops, try again!

8



Take turns to throw the ball to each other.

9



Play until the ball is deflated.

10



Finish!

Games on Quiet Mornings

Kuti-Kuti



Choose your favourite animal token and see if you can win by flipping it over your opponent's piece! The name of this game comes from the Malay word for the flipping action.

Number of players: 2 

Remember to find **1 more** player before starting your game.

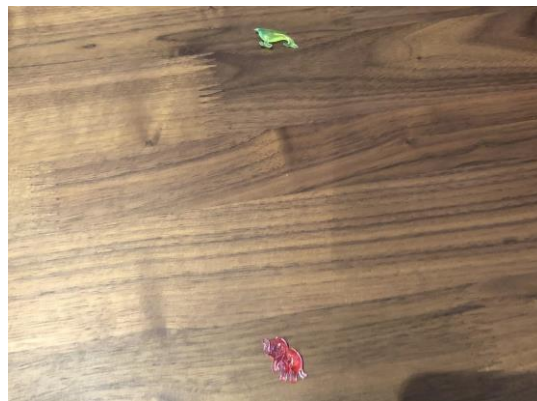
Follow the steps below and let's play!

1



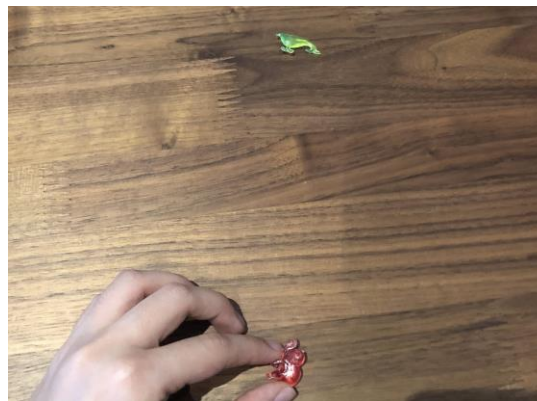
Choose one *kuti-kuti* token each.

2



Place your selected *kuti-kuti* token opposite each other.

3



Choose one person to go first.

4



Flick your *kuti-kuti* token by using one finger to press down and release it.

5



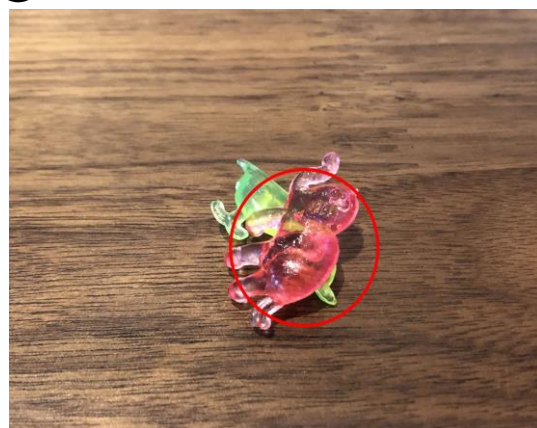
Take turns to move and flick the *kuti-kuti*.

6



Continue until one *kuti-kuti* token is on top of the other.

7



Player whose *kuti-kuti* token is on top wins!

8



Finish!

Games on Quiet Mornings Country Eraser Battle



Choose your favourite country eraser and see if you can win by flipping it over your opponent's country eraser!

Number of players: 2 🧑 🧑

Remember to find **1 more** player before starting your game.

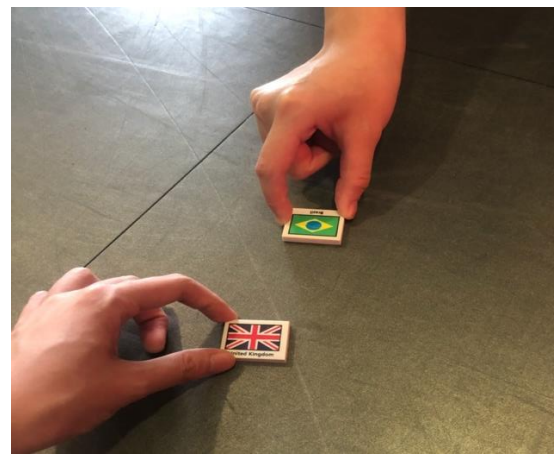
Follow the steps below and let's play!

1



Choose one eraser each.

2



Place the erasers opposite each other.

3



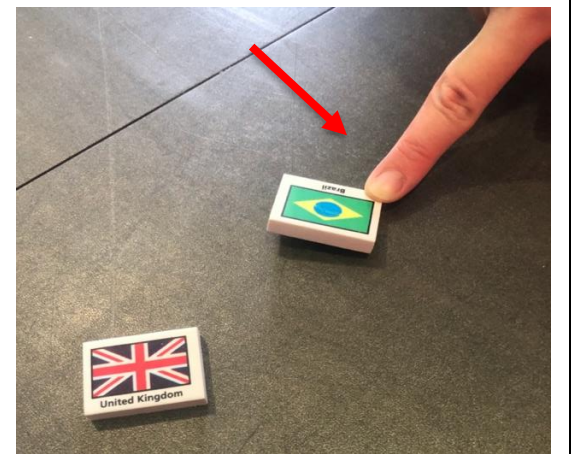
Choose one person to go first.

4



Pressing down using only 1 finger, the first player may flip his/her eraser once.

5



Take turns to flip erasers.

6



Continue until one eraser is on top of the other.

7



Player whose eraser is on top wins!

8



Finish!

Games on Quiet Mornings Spinning Tops



Sit in a circle and spin the tops. The person with the longest spinning top wins!

Number of players: 2 to 6 🧑🧑 + 🧑🧑🧑🧑

Remember to find another **1 to 5 more** players before starting your game.

Follow the steps below and let's play!

*A set has six tops of different colours: Red, Purple, Blue, Green, Yellow, Orange.

1



Sit in a circle.

2



Pick 1 top each.

3



Hold your top with 3 fingers.

4



Count down, "3, 2, 1, GO!".
Spin your tops together on
"GO!"

5



Wait for the tops to stop
spinning. The top that spins
the longest wins!

Games on Quiet Mornings

Pick Up Sticks



Take turns to pick up sticks. The player with the most sticks wins!

Number of players: 2 to 3 🧑🧑 + 🧑

Remember to find **1 or 2 more** players before starting your game.
Follow the steps below and let's play!

1



Sit in a circle. Pick one player to start.

2



The player holds all sticks in one hand.

3



Player 1 releases his/her hand to scatter the sticks.

4



Player 1 tries to pick up sticks one by one without moving the other sticks. His/her turn ends if another stick moves.

5



The next player tries to pick up the sticks one by one without moving the other sticks. His/her turn ends if another stick moves.

6



Continue taking turns until all sticks are gone.

7



Count your sticks.
Player with the most sticks wins!

8



Finish!

Games on Quiet Mornings Five Stones



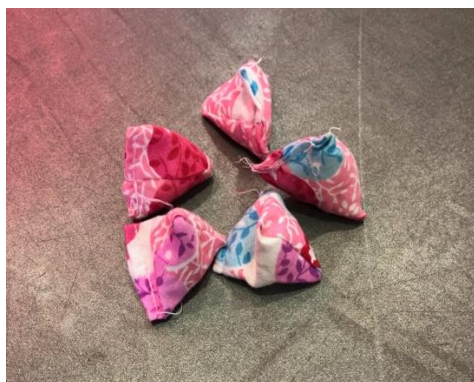
Five stones are little bags usually filled with green beans or small stones. Try to play this game using only ONE hand. You will need to move your hand quickly!

To play, throw one stone in the air and pick up the rest with one hand. Make sure the stones don't drop! Play until you have all the five stones in one hand.

Number of players: 1 

Follow the steps below and let's play!

1



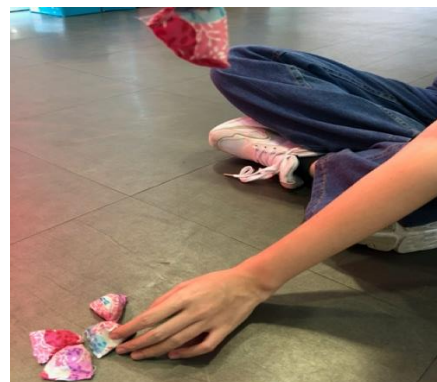
Throw all five stones on the ground.

2



Take one stone and throw it in the air.

3



Quickly pick up one more stone from the ground while the first stone is in the air.

4



Catch the stone in the air with the same hand. Now you have two stones in your hand.

5



Throw one of these stones in the air and repeat steps 3 and 4. Now you have three stones in your hand.

6



If you cannot catch the stone, try again!

7



Throw one of these stones in the air and repeat steps 3 and 4. Now you have four stones in your hand.

8



Throw one of these stones in the air and repeat steps 3 and 4. Now you have five stones in your hand – well done!

9



Finish!

Games on Quiet Mornings

Five Stones (Simplified)



Five stones are little bags usually filled with green beans or small stones. To play, throw one stone in the air and catch it. Then throw two stones in the air and catch them. Make sure the stones don't drop! Play until you have caught all the five stones in your hands. You can also challenge yourself to use only ONE hand!

Number of players: 1 

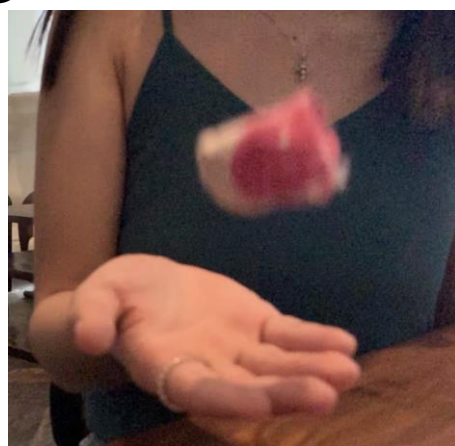
Follow the steps below and let's play!

1



Throw all 5 stones on the ground or table.

2



Throw 1 stone in the air.

3



Catch the stone before it falls using both hands.

4



Throw 2 stones in the air using both hands.

5



Catch the stones before they fall using both hands.

6

Repeat steps 2 to 5. Add 1 more stone each time.

7



Continue until you catch all 5 stones.

8



If you cannot catch the stone, try again!

9



CHALLENGE:
Repeat steps 2 to 7 using **one** hand.

10



Finish!

Games on Quiet Mornings Snakes and Ladders



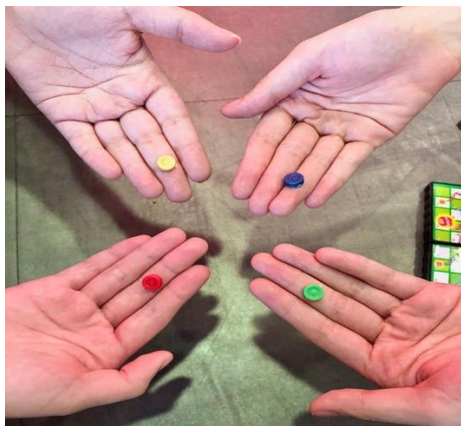
Follow the ladders up and follow the snakes down. The first player to reach Box 100 wins!

Number of players: 4 🧑🧑🧑🧑

Remember to find **3** more players before starting your game.

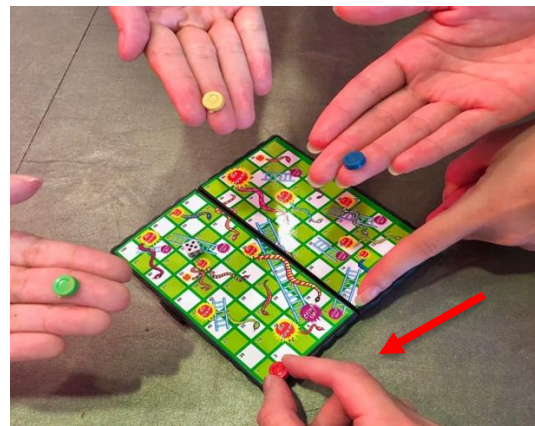
Follow the steps below and let's play!

1



Choose one magnet each.

2



Pick one person to start.

3



The first player throws the dice.

4



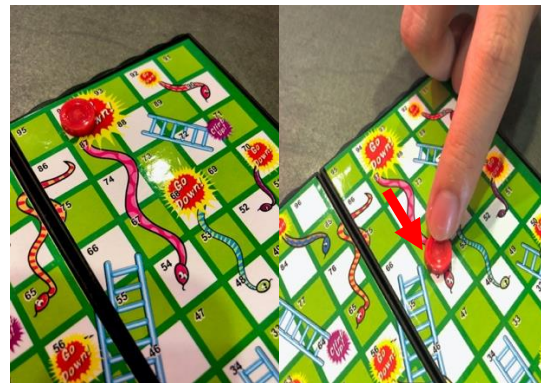
Move your token along the squares according to the number shown on the dice.

5



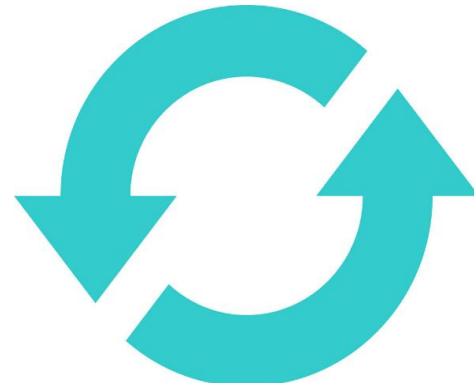
If the magnet reaches the bottom of the ladder, climb up the ladder.

6



If the magnet reaches the snake's tail, slide down the snake.

7



Take turns to repeat steps 3 to 6.

8



The player who reaches Box 100 first wins!

9



Finish!

Games on Quiet Mornings

Old Maid (Competitive card game)



Find the matching pairs of cards and put them down in front of you.
The last player with the two “Old Maid” cards loses!

Number of players: 2 – 6 +

Remember to find **1 to 5 more** players before starting your game.
Follow the steps below and let’s play!

1



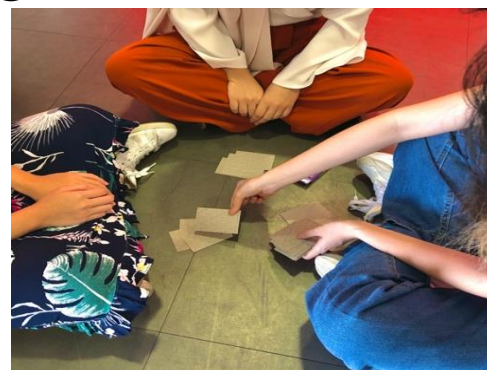
Sit in a circle.

2



Pick one person to shuffle the cards.

3



The same person deals the cards face down to the players.

4



Look at your cards. Pick out matching pairs and place them face down in front of you. Wait until everybody has done so.

5



Player 1 offers his/her remaining cards, face down, to Player 2 on his/her left.

6



Player 2 takes one card from Player 1. If it matches with one of his/her cards, put the 2 cards face down in front of him/her.

7



Player 2 offers his/her cards, face down, to the next player on his/her left.

8



Continue until everyone has finished matching their cards.

9



The last player with the last pair of matching “Old Maid” cards loses the game.

10



Keep the cards nicely into the box. If you have less than 36 cards, please let the museum staff know.

Games on Quiet Mornings Donkey (Competitive card game)



Find the matching pairs of cards and put them down in front of you.
The last player with the two “Donkey” cards loses!

Number of players: 2 – 6 🧑🧑 + 🧑🧑🧑🧑

Remember to find **1 to 5 more** players before starting your game.

Follow the steps below and let's play!

1



Sit in a circle.

2



Pick one person to shuffle the cards.

3



The same person deals the cards face down to the players.

4



Look at your cards. Pick out matching pairs and place them face down in front of you. Wait until everybody has done so.

5



Player 1 offers his/her remaining cards, face down, to Player 2 on his/her left.

6



Player 2 takes one card from Player 1. If it matches with one of his/her cards, put the two cards face down in front of him/her.

7



Player 2 offers his/her cards, face down, to the next player on his/her left.

8



Continue until everyone has finished matching their cards.

9



The last player with the last pair of matching “Donkey” cards loses the game.

10



Keep the cards nicely into the box. If you have less than 36 cards, please let the museum staff know.

Games on Quiet Mornings

Snap (Competitive card game)



Turn over the cards to find matching pairs. When you see a matching pair, the fastest player to put his/her hands over the cards and shout “SNAP!” gets to keep the cards. The player with the most cards at the end wins!

Number of players: 2 🧑🧑

Remember to **1 more** player before starting your game.

Follow the steps below and let's play!

1



Sit facing each other.
Choose one player to shuffle
the cards.

2



Shuffle the cards face down.

3



Split the cards into 2 equal
stacks and take one stack
each.

4



Both players open and place
their cards down at the same
time.

5



If the cards do not match,
continue putting down cards
until they match.

6



If the cards match, the first
player to put his/her hand
over the cards and shout
“SNAP!” gets to keep all the
cards.

7



Repeat steps 4 to 6 until all
the cards have been turned
over. The player with the
most cards wins!

8



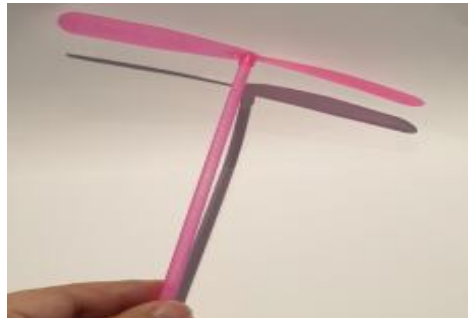
Keep the cards nicely into
the box. If you have less
than 36 cards, please let the
museum staff know.

9



Finish!

Games on Quiet Mornings Flying Copter



Find an open space. You may go to the museum's front lawn to play this game.
Spin your flying copter and watch it fly!

Number of players: 1 

Follow the steps below and let's play!

1



Find an open space. You can play on the front lawn outside.

2



Take a pair of wings and a stick, and put them together.

3



Hold the stick between your palms. Rub your palms together and let go!

4



Watch the flying copter fly!

5



Pick up the flying copter when it lands and play again.

Games on Quiet Mornings

Capteh (Competitive)



Find an open space. You may go to the museum’s front lawn to play this game.
Kick the capteh and keep it in the air for as long as possible. You cannot use your hands to catch the capteh!
Collect points for every kick. The player with the most points wins.

Number of players: More than 1 +
Remember to find **at least 1 more** player before starting your game.
Follow the steps below and let’s play!

1  Find an open space. You can play on the front lawn outside.	2  Stand up and hold the capteh at arm’s length.	3  Drop the capteh and kick it back up with your foot. You get a point for every kick. Keep kicking until the capteh drops.	4  Game ends when the capteh falls to the ground. The player with the most points wins!
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Games on Quiet Mornings *Capteh (Cooperative)*



Find an open space. You may go to the museum's front lawn to play this game.
Take turns with your friends to kick the capteh and keep it in the air for as long as possible. Remember, you cannot use your hands to catch the capteh!

Number of players: More than 1 👤+

Remember to find **at least 1 more** player before starting your game.

Follow the steps below and let's play!

1



Find an open space. You can play on the front lawn outside.

2



Stand in a circle and choose 1 person to start.

3



First player holds the capteh at arm's length.

4



Kick the capteh to a friend. Continue kicking the capteh to each other until it drops.

5



Choose another player to start and repeat the game.