

Simon Says

- Choose one child to be "Simon"
- Throughout the game, "Simon" directs the other children in doing things in place (such as "touch your nose" or "spin around"), sometimes using the phrase, "Simon Says"
- When the phrase "Simon Says" is used, the other children must perform the directed action
- If a child performs the wrong action, or performs the right one but "Simon" did NOT say "Simon Says", then that child is "out" and can sit down for the rest of the game
- The last child standing is the winner and the next "Simon" (if there is more than one child left, they are all declared winners and can use Rock-Paper-Scissors to find the new "Simon")

****Hint:** When directing, "Simon" may use actions and movements to either help or mislead the other children.

Box Basketball

Things you will need:

the top and bottom of a square gift box (about 4" across and 2 1/2 " deep)
tempera paint
scissors
glue bottle or glue gun
super ball

1. With your paint, decorate your boxes any way you want (zigzags, polka dots, stripes, etc.).
2. After the paint dries, cut a medium size square in the wider part of the box (the lid of the box).
3. Glue the lid upside down to the box, to form a basket with a rim.

How to play:

The first person stands about a foot away from the box. They then throw the ball in the box and try to get it in the hole. If it goes in, they get a point. Play continues in turns. The person with the most points wins.

Hide and Seek

This is a classic favorite. When babysitting, please have kids know the boundaries. Do not allow them to play in unsupervised areas.

Rules:

- One person is IT.
- The person who is IT counts to 20, 30,... (you decide)
- The others hide.
- The person who is IT says, "Ready or not, here I come!" and then tries to find the others
- The first person who is found is the next person to be IT.

Note to Babysitters: If a very young child wants to play, assign them a partner (for safety reasons). You should always be a supervisor rather than a player.

Mother, May I?

Rules:

- One person is IT
- The person who is IT stands on one side of the yard or room.
- The others stand on the other side of the yard or room.
- The person who is IT says to the first person in line. "Johnny, you may take five (any number) giant steps".
- Johnny must say "Mother, May I?"
- The person who is IT says "Yes, you may" or "No, you may not". If IT says yes, Johnny takes 5 giant steps closer to IT.
- Then IT turns to the next person in line with directions....etc.
- If a person forgets to say "Mother, May I?" that person must go back to the start.

Other possible directions from the person who is IT.

1. giant steps
2. normal steps
3. tiny steps
4. tip toe

Name Tag Ball

You need a soft kickball or beach ball (do not use a hard ball for this game)

- The person who is IT throws the ball in the air and calls another player's name.
- The person whose name is called is now IT, and must run to catch the ball. When IT gets the ball, they yell STOP!
- All players must stop and freeze where they are.
- IT can take three giant steps towards any player.
- IT tries to hit the other player with the ball (below the neck).
- If IT fails to hit the other player with the ball, then the person who was IT is still IT
- If IT hits the other player with the ball, then the other player is IT, unless the other player catches the ball. If the other player catches the ball, then the person who was IT, is still IT.
- If you hit above the neck, you lose and are still IT.

Note to babysitters: The ball must be soft. At no time should this be a rough game. Most kids love to play this.

Red Rover

(you need a group to play this game)

- Divide your group into two teams.
- Each team stands in a row holding hands on opposite sides of the yard.
- The first team says "Red Rover, Red Rover, send (name a child on the other team) Right Over".
- That person then must run across the yard and break through the hand chain.
- If they break through the chain, they can bring one person back to their team.
- If they do not break through the hand chain, they must stay on that team.
- The team that ends up with all but one person wins.