

RETRO recess

This is a collection of games that were often played during recess in one room schoolhouses during the nineteenth and twentieth centuries.

Though some of these games may seem familiar to many of us have you ever thought about the origins of these classic games? The origins and uses of these games can tell us a lot about what growing up during this period was like.

You will notice going through these games the simplicity of many of the activities. This is because there was not a lot of materials available to people so children's games relied on finding creative ways to have fun!

We hope you can also get creative while encouraging activity and movement!

- Frontenac County Schools Museum



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Tug of War

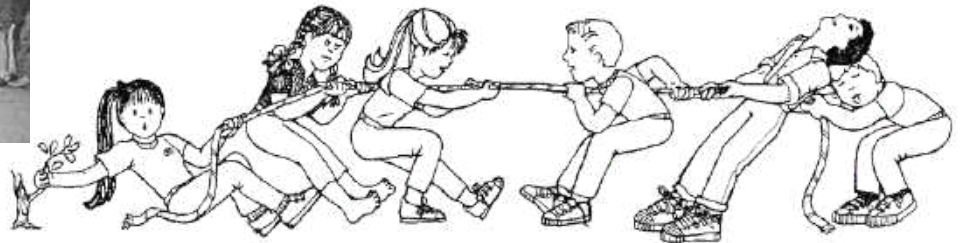
Type: exerting game

Players: 4+

The origins of tug of war are unknown but the game has been mentioned in many historical instances. Tug of war shows up under the name "hook pulling" in a Tang dynasty book and was used as a military training technique. There was also a version of the game popularized in Greece that didn't use rope but instead teams held hands increasing the difficulty.

Supplies:

- Rope
- Line marker



How to play:

To play tug of war all you need is to have the players from two different teams take hold of one end of a rope. The goal is to try and pull the other team over a line marked in the ground between them.