



Outdoor Games

Outdoor time is essential in the daily lives of children. Children should have both free play time and structured time when playing outside. Outdoor games help build social relationships ... self-esteem ... listening skills ... gross motor development and so much more. The ideas that follow came from the wonderful women on my yahoo email lists [childcareland2](#) and [shelleylovettsprintables](#).

Some of our favorite outdoor games include:

Hide and Seek: One child counts (with his/her eye closed) to 20 while the other children find hiding spaces. The child who counts tries to find where the other children have hidden. When all of the children have been found the child who was the "counter" selects a child to be the new "counter".

Red Light Green Light: One child is the "stop light" and the rest of

the children line about fifteen feet away. The child that is the stop light stands so his/her back is toward the children. The stop light calls out "green light" and the children move toward the stop light. The stop light then calls out "red light" and then turns around ... if any children are still moving after the stop light calls out "red light" they are out. The stop light then calls out "green light" and the children move forward again until the stop light calls out "red light". Play ends when either all of the children are out or a child is the first to touch the stop light. The child that touches the stop light becomes the new stop light.

Simon Says: One child (or teacher) is Simon and the rest of the children line up. Children are told to follow the actions only when "Simon Says" if "Simon doesn't say "Simon says before the action that is called out then the child/children who perform that action have to sit out. "Simon" calls out an action saying for example "Simon says touch your toes" ... the children then touch their toes ... another action is called out "Simon says stand on one leg" ... another action is called out "shake your arms" when children perform the action without "Simon Says" being said they are out. Play continues until all of the children are out. Simon then picks a new Simon.

Freeze : One child is "it" and runs around chasing the other children. When the child that is it touches the other children those children must stand still or "freeze". When all of the children are frozen a new child is selected to become "it".

Shelley Lovett
childcareland.com

We play

Catch the dragon's tail. You line the kids up in one long line and the last person is the "tail" the first person is the dragon's mouth. You can put a handkerchief in the tail's pocket if you want... I've played it both ways. The object is for the mouth to catch the tail.... The front half tries to help the mouth and the back end tries to help the tail. It is FUNNY! My school age kids at the daycare LOVED IT.

tag games are big around here. We play "bulldog" where the kids

line up on one side and try to run to the other side. If they are tagged, they become "bulldogs" and you play until everyone has been caught.

ocean tag: Similar to bulldog except that when they are tagged they become sea weed and can't move.... they can reach back and forth and try to tag the other kids....

Dragon's Eggs. This one we used 4 hool-a-hoops and put in 4 different color bean bags in each one... so you need 16 bean bags of the same color. Then you divide the kids into 4 teams. Each team is given one area with a hoop. The object is to collect all the eggs from the other hoops without letting the other team collect theirs. We played it with flag football belts.... and if you lost your flag you went to the "dungeon" until a team mate came and got you out. I've also played where you have more bean bags (I think we used the ball pit balls not bean bags) where you collect your color but you also steal other peoples and dump them into other hoops.

Predator and pray.... we put two hoops out for "safety zones" then the predators try to tag the pray. If the pray are tagged they had to sit out. I've played this in a really complicated way where the kids were sea turtles...and we given 5 sticks to represent their babies.... then the "dangers" were separated into land dangers and sea dangers.... the turtles had to get out to the sea... then they needed to collect 5 chips.... if a danger tagged a turtle, they needed to give up a stick.... the chips represented how old the turtles were.... once the turtles were over 3 years old, they couldn't use the safety zones anymore because they were too big. (told you this was complicated didn't I) Anyway... once they had all 5 chips, they had to make their way back to the starting area.... if they lost all 5 sticks, they went to the spot between the land and the sea and stood with their arms stretched out becoming condos and blocking the turtles from getting back.

Fish game. This one I found in my girl scout book.... it's from a different country but I can't remember which one. My brownies LOVE this game. You need enough squares or some sort of marked area for each child except one... Each child picks a different type of fish.... we've had everything from clown fish to blue fish, trout, etc.... the one without the square is the whale and calls off the names of the fish... when the fish is called off they follow the whale around in a long line. When all the fish are called, the whale yells "there's a storm in the ocean" and everyone rushes back to

get on a square. The one who doesn't get a square is then the whale.

Obstacle courses are a big one with the kids here too. They love to do different things and see who is fastest.

Vickie

Fox and the Hound:

Must have snow on the ground and a large open place to run. Make a huge circle in the snow and then divide it into 4 sections like pie pieces. One person is the hound, the rest are the foxes. The foxes run all around the circle staying on the path and the hound tries to catch them. The first one caught it the hound. The hound can run on the inside circle path and also on the outside circle paths, but the fox can only run on the outside circle paths.

Tag: All sorts of tag games: Freeze tag, Shadow Tag, Color Tag

Hide & Go Seek

Duck Duck, Gray Duck

One person is "it". Everyone else sits in a circle. The person that is "it" taps everyone one on the head saying a color of duck like, pink duck, red duck, blue duck, etc. and then picks one person as gray duck - that person has to jump up and try and catch the person that is "it" before he runs around the circle and gets back to the original gray ducks person's spot in the circle. If he catches the person that is it then the "it" person is "it" again. If he doesn't catch her, then he is it and goes around the circle tapping each on the head and saying a color duck, etc. Variations are to say: Duck Duck Goose, or other seasonal items like Reindeer Reindeer Santa, or Pumpkin Pumpking, Black Cat, etc.

Races!

The Farmer in the Dell

Just a simple song really - someone is the farmer, everyone else forms a circle around the farmer who is standing in the middle, when it comes to the part where it says, the Farmer picks a wife, the farmer picks a wife to join him in the circle. The wife picks a

child, the child picks a dog, the dog picks a cat, the cat picks a mouse, and the mouse picks the cheese. The cheese stands alone in the circle and becomes the famer for a new game.

Drop the Hankie

The players form a circle. One player is chosen to be IT. He walks around outside the circle with a handkerchief in his hand. He drops it quietly behind one player and keeps walking trying to get around the circle before the player discovers the handkerchief. If IT gets all the way around the player becomes a dead fish and stands in the middle of the circle. If the player discovers it he chases IT and catches him, they are not IT. If he doesn't catch IT, he becomes IT. A dead fish can rescue himself in two ways. He may snatch the handkerchief from behind some other player before that player sees it, or a player behind whom the handkerchief has been dropped may toss it into the circle behind a dead fish. The dead fish then picks up the handkerchief and chases IT.

Deb/MN

We like to play Colors....you are going to need a jumprope (string works well too) you have two children pick one color (it is good of an adult or older child who isn't playing kind of oversee the project to make sure everyone is playing fairly)...then you move the jumprope back and forth like a snake on the ground each of the other children take turns jumping over the jumprope trying to guess the color. Who ever guess' the color gets to take the end of the rope. It helps the kids learn while they are playing without even knowing that they are learning...which is ok with us because it just reinforces those ideas for them.

My older kids like to play Cartoon Tag....its played just like freeze tag only you have to yell cartoon names before you are tagged.

We also play Capture The Flag divide the kids up to two equal teams. Then each team needs to find a base (trees...light posts...stumps...anything you can gather around without being hurt). You are going to need someone to guard the base or jail is what we used to call it when I was younger. Ok then as team you

hide your flag...once done it is the object of the game is to find the other teams flag and return it to your base before your opponents. You can also collect the other teams people and put them in jail...so not only are you looking for the flag but POW's. You can play this inside as well we use different objects (letters, numbers, etc.) you could even play this with you (the teacher or daycare provider) hiding different items around the room or house like if you have a theme or letter of a day...have the kids find words or objects that have those items and they have to bring it to you for a sticker or something. I think that sounds like I have given you the jest of this game. If you have questions you can email me.

We also like to play Kick The Can.... any kind of can will do....its played just like soccer only with a can.

Ok last one is Mother Bear....its kinda like tag...you pick one person to be it (mother bear) she picks somewhere in the yard to be her den....she gets down on all fours in her den like she is sleeping...all the other kids go where ever else in the yard....the sneak up on mother bear very slowly with each step they take they say "Mother Bear...Mother Bear are you sleeping?" they start the chant softly and then with each step that takes them closer to the den they get a little bit louder. Mother bear can stand up at any time when she thinks that she can tag someone....if she tags you then you become her cub...and so forth.

Veronica in Idaho
Kiddie Kare

In our music and movement in the mornings we sing the "ABC Rock" song by Greg & Steve. We also do many songs by Hap Palmer. Some of our favorites are Colors, Put Your Hands Up in the Air, Walk Around the Alphabet, What Are You Wearing?, and Touch Something.

We also do the "Cha Cha Slide" part of music, movement and P.E. We also do the "Chicken Dance" and "YMCA". Our kindergartens love

doing
these songs.

Thanks.

Mrs. Tara Byram
Kindergarten Aide
Park Hill Elementary
North Little Rock, AR

Molly Bounce

We use what ever ball is in season of Sports although the football and hockey puck have been challanging.

All student become a #### (what ever skill we are working on) then the ball is bounced from one to the other. in younger kids I suggest making a headband of the #### but older ones can just remember them.

Skills this works good with are

Letters (Try with sign language fingerspelling)

numbers (including primes and square roots as they got older)
shapes

parts of speach (nowns verbs pronowns suffixes and more)

Addition subtractions Multiplication and division (if you get two kids that are buddies and always throw to each other give them cards that are difficult for them)

Dori Oakes

Fayette Area Homeschool Support Team Leader.

Age: 6 and up

Participants: 6 or more

Equipment: balloon for each child and a start and finish line

Objective: Be the first team to cross the finish line

Description: Divide the group into teams of three. the first person starts

behind the start line. blows up his balloon and lets it go towards the

finish line. The next team member takes his own balloon and goes

to where

the last one landed and blows his balloon up and lets it go. This continues until the balloon crosses the finish line.

Haley Jackson

Main Elementary Special Educator

Hoola Hoop Fun

We have several different colored hoola hoops that we lay on the ground. I'll then give instructions such as "run to the red hoola hoop and pretend to be a car" or "walk to the green hoola hoop and hop like a bunny". I just make things up based on their interest and mood.

The Running Game

Very simple, we all start from the same place and I give directions such as "run to the big tree and touch the bark and then come back" or "run over to the slide and do one slide and come back" or "run around the tree 3 times". They can play this for hours.

Penny May

Our class enjoys doing parachute activities outside. We put balls, bean bags even waded up paper in the parachute. This is one of their favorite activities to do outside or inside if you have the room. If you do not have a parachute you can use a old round table cloth.

Dara

I am a Registered Family Daycare and we like to play follow the leader outside. We also play mother may I? This is where you ask mother may I (take 4 baby steps, etc). Other outside games

include making obstacle courses, searching for treasure in the sandbox, duck, duck, goose and we dance...

Tanyas Daycare
in NYS

Some of our favorite outdoor games include
Frisbee hoops- use a frisbee and a plastic hoop (like a small hula hoop) and one child holds the hoop while the other one tries to throw the frisbee through it.

Hopscotch- use the foam rubber mats or now my kids are into drawing one out to use.

Freeze, hide and seek

Basket Ball is another big hit. No net use a clean empty garbage can

Cathy

TIRE: TOSS

Set out a blow-up pool ring on the grass.

Have your child try tossing bean bags, rolled-up socks, or other soft yet heavy items into the ring. Help your child count how many items he threw, landed in the ring. Repeat the game if interest lasts

BALLS

All toddlers, actually most kids - all ages, are fascinated by balls. Balls of various sizes can be thrown, caught and also fetched

BOAT

Put out a kiddie pool, but leave the water out. Let the kids climb in and pretend they are in a boat and the grass is the water. Use their imagination on where they are sailing too, what things they

see in the water/ocean, etc.

NATURE WALK

Go for a nature walk with the kids and stop to smell the flowers and observe the insects. Encourage the children to talk about what they see and hear.

FLYING KITES

On a windy day, consider flying a kite. The kids can make their own kites and they will enjoy seeing them flying high in the sky.

SHEET PAINTING

Hang an old sheet on a fence and have the children spray paint it using liquid tempera paint mixed with water in spray bottles. I will do this on days they can wear their swimsuits, then when they are done painting, we hose off - think that is actually their favorite part.

TREASURE HUNT WALK

For the older kiddos, I will make up some half sheet of papers with a list of things that I know they will find in my neighborhood - even put pictures, next to the words, for the ones that can't read. Then we go for a walk around the neighborhood. They look for the items listed and mark off the ones that they find. Some of the things I put on the list are VERY easy to find, while with other things they have to be VERY observant. Then when we get back to my house, we look to see if everyone found everything and even talk about things we saw that wasn't on the list.

RUNNING

We live in a subdivision about 4 miles from town. It's small - only about 12 homes and most of us have 2 to 3 acres, some a little more. SO I have lots of yard to run in. We will have races (sometimes just running to get rid of their hyperness lol). I will point out a tree in the yard and they have to run to the tree, touch it and run back to me. I will say "Run to the tree 2 times." Then see if they are listening and work on their counting. The

toddlers, will just run and laugh and that's good. Then I might say "run to the tree, walk around it, then run to that other tree, then run to me."

Colleen (KS)

Colleen's Country Kids Childcare

A couple of favorites:

Catch my tail:

Use chiffon scarves, can be found at second hand goodwill stores. Children tuck the end of the scarf in their waistband or belt loop and let the rest hang out. Young children can chase each other trying to grab the others tails. For an advanced form of this game. Have the children line up and a teacher or leader walks behind the line back and forth. Children in line hold hands behind back. The teacher secretly drops a marble or small token in the hands of one of those children. When that child gets the token he/she runs to a designated target. The rest of the group tries to get the tail of the runner before they reach the target.

Spray a rainbow:

Hang up a large white sheet on a fence or tack onto the side of the building. Give the children spray bottles filled with red, yellow, and blue water. Children spray the sheet allowing the colors to drip down making the secondary colors of orange, purple, green when they mix.

One other fun thing to do outdoors is to set up a car/trike wash. Hang some streamers from a cardboard box with part of the sides cut away so that it makes an open area to drive the trikes through. The children can pretend they are going through a drive through car wash. Set up another station with spray bottles with water and sponges. The kids can spray the trikes and wipe dry. Good for web space development of fingers/pre-scissor skills.

Take your art easel outside and let the kids combine movement with art. Dip socks balls filled with sand in paint and throw at the

easel to make splatter paint pictures. Make sure to do this in an area that can get messy and away from other children's play. Have plenty of water for clean-up.

Sara K. early childhood sp.ed. teacher

I have a daycare and I run it from my home a lot of our favorite games are.....

Parachute Play- I bought a parachute and the kids LOVE playing with it. WE play with it outside. We throw bean bags on it and see how fast we can shake it to shake the bean bags off of it. We play "Ring Around the Rosie" with it and we also make it into a fort and read books under it.

Obstacle Course- I make an obstacle course in my play yard and the kids run through it and we time them to see who is the fastest and slowest and everyone receives a prize.

Balloon Toss--They LOVE this game. I blow up several balloons and we toss them back and forth. They get closer to each other and further away from each other. Then they get to free play with them. THIS is also a great indoor activity if the weather is crummy.

Chase--I have the kids chase me around the play yard until we all get tired. Great excersie for the daycare provider!!

Hoola Hoops--I have about 6 hoola hoops and the kids put them around their waist and they try to hoola. I also put them on the floor and they run through them. We can play lion tamer and one person holds the hoola hoop and the other does a sommer sault through them.

These games are our favorites!!
Jenny Dugan

Greetings!

One of our favorite outdoor games is the "turtle". I have a cover from an umbrella, the large yard ones, and all the children get underneath and hold on to it, I walk around and choose a "head" and everyone has to follow the head around the path, all together, and at the end everyone gets a sticker.
take care.

Laurie D

For outside time, My Pre-K's love:

What Time is It Mr. Fox?

Duck, Duck Goose

Red Light Green Light

Follow the Leader

Ride bikes (My kids' old bikes are a perfect fit!)

Egg Hunts (Easter Time for their goodie treats)

Leprechaun Hunts ("Our Leprechaun leaves a trail of gold coins [candy] that lead to a special treat or small toy

Obstacle Courses (We do these in the summer and vary them - the kids ask to do it almost every day so there is definitely plenty of exercise)

Inflatable Climbing Wall that is perfect for my Pre-k's

In the summer we do the sprinklers and slip 'n' slides

In the winter we like to make animals or people out of snow and color them

We also make forts and igloos in the snow

We build blanket forts in the summer time to crawl through!

My older kids (I have three) like to make forts in the woods; bike riding (there is a trail down my road that is safe and I live in a neighborhood that watches plus they ride together and with walkie talkies!)

My older kids will also do the obstacle course and most of the time they want to set it up for the little kids!

Christie Patzer's Daycare

Traverse City, MI

We have a large family and like to play many games together....here are just a few.

Shadow Tag: One person is "it" and they have to chase the other players and step on their shadow. When your shadow is "tagged" you also become "it" and join the original tagger in stepping on the other players shadows. The last player to get their shadow "tagged" gets to choose who is "it" for the next round.

Clothespin Tag: Every player gets a clothespin and clips it to the back of their shirt. Someone is chosen as "it" and they try to collect all the clothespins. Again, we play that the last player who loses his/her clothespin gets to choose who is "it" for the next round. ~~ A variation is to have teams and mark the clothespins with team colors and each team has to try and be the first to "capture" the other team by collecting all their clothespins. If we have a small group, each player may get more than one clothespin. The clothespins may be dropped in a bucket as they are taken.

Summer Snowball Attack: We separate into two teams. Each team gets several old socks folded inside themselves to form a ball. Each team has its "fort" at opposite sides of the playing area and a center line is established by marking off with tape or string or some natural separation. We set up empty cans or small buckets and/or containers all around the fort areas. Each team gets the same amount of containers and the same amount of sockballs. The players try to throw the sock snowballs and knock down the opposing teams containers without getting "tagged" by the opposite team. (Getting tagged is getting hit with a sockball). Teams may use any of the other teams sockballs that come into their fort area. A Note: We never throw the socks with the intention of hitting or hurting any of the players.

Timekeeper: One person is chosen to be the Timekeeper and stands with their back to the rest of the players standing behind the "starting line" which may be placed about 20ft, or so, in back of the Timekeeper. As the game begins the players all call out, "Timekeeper, Timekeeper, what time is it?" And the Timekeeper calls out a time..."It's 6:00." And then the players take 6 steps forward. They may choose to take big or small steps. They keep asking the Timekeeper what the time is and the timekeeper continues to reply until someone can get close enough to tag the

Timekeeper before he/she turns around and tags one of the players. ~The Timekeeper may NOT turn around during the game until he/she decides to turn in order to try and tag a player. When the Timekeeper does turn and tag...the players then run back to the starting line. Any player getting behind the starting line without being tagged is "safe". Whoever gets tagged is out until all the kids are tagged or someone tags the Timekeeper. The last person tagged or the one to tag the Timekeeper first is the next Timekeeper. [I hope that was understandable :)]

~Peace,
Alie/IL

This is just a sampling of some of our outdoor games. Our main goal was exercise and to have fun!

Chalk Simon Says:

Draw Large shapes , Letters of the alphabet or numbers in colors on the driveway. Say "Simon Says stand on the Yellow Square" etc.. Kids can take turns being Simon. This teaches following directions and basic shapes, colors, letters, numbers etc.

Relay Races :

We just would run to the fence and back.

Obstacle courses:

Set up a variety of things for the children to do. Climb over things, under things, around things , walk on the landscape timbers for balance and finish with snack or some other treat.

Beachball Volleyball:

Use a beachball to hit the ball back and forth to children.

Soccer

Bat and Ball

Catch the Ball

Teri J. in Kansas

One game my partner devised the other day was to place numbers on the fence on one side of our property and on the other side designate a start line.

The children can take turns yelling out a number for all the other children

to run to. After a few turns the 'caller' can designate a new 'caller'

The best part of this is when the children get to help create or colour the numbers for the fence.

-Jennifer Perry

Our kids love sticker tag. We use the round multicolored yard sale stickers that you can buy (1000 for \$2). We cut the stickers into strips and give each child one strip per game (approx. 8 stickers). The object of the game is to get rid of your stickers but not get stickers on yourself!

Amanda Riley

I always loved the game as a kid where you take a parachute and the kids stand around the parachute and hold onto the edges to bounce the balls inside the middle. You can do this in preschool only a much smaller scale with a crib sheet and one or two balls, or a doll.

Another fun game is follow the leader. For little ones have them just hold onto a string, or broom handle as you walk around the yard not letting go. You can also put one foot out, and jump, stuff like that.

One more! My kids love to pretend, so we make up stories of climbing the tree, picking the apple, and acting it out. Outside, you can pretend to be an airplane, a bee sniffing flowers, a horse that runs

wild...its more fun outside cause theres more room to run and much less noisy! LOL

Liz Gillespie

Relays: Three and four year olds riding trikes to one end and the other child gets on and rides it back. Three children is great for this activity.

One forward, one back, and one forward. They all get turns, no one wins. A

great game for taking turns without verbally stating it in those terms.

Then there are the old freeze games, playing music everyone runs around and

then stops in position when music stops, or without music, just shout the

word freeze. Using at a least a 20 inch round ball with children's hands up

in a circle to continue the ball moving and drop to the ground.

Duck, duck,

goose where all children sit in a circle and one is chosen to circle the

outside taping each child on the head saying duck, duck, and then goose,

that child gets up and runs after the hitter trying to catch him before he

gets to the hittee's spot. Any animal can be used.

Using a ball about 16" in diameter and a soccer net. Have children take

turns kicking the ball into the net. Really builds on their leg muscles and

leg and foot control. Set out several 30 gallon trash cans (clean of course)

have several balls or basketballs and have children try to make baskets

while shooting into the cans. Start out 3 feet from the can and lengthen it

each time all can do it.

Trudy Toddler Village

Here are a few ideas I learned this past week during a training called outdoor spaces.

One would be to choose a shape for each child and create a necklace for that child to wear with their shape. A circle, square, triangle, heart etc. simple paper cutout. While you are on your outdoor play time, it is their quest to try to find some things with that shape. They don't PICK them, or gather them, they simply locate them, and report them.

The instructor also had us make explorer bags for the children. A plastic bag with a string around it. Inside were things that the children took with them for explorer time. Simple things. A 35mm film canister to collect their treasures. a small canister keeps them from bringing home the neighbors cat! So seeds and pebbles etc would be their size limited treasures. A sheet of paper for rubbings along with a crayon to make the rubbings. A cloth handkerchief that you take the time to do rubber stamping on of leaves or ladybugs (the child makes their napkin or handkerchief). This can be used for picnic snack time to lay out and have snack on, or it can be used to place down to sit on when the area isn't quite clean. They can be made so washing won't delete the child's work.. A toilet paper tube for viewing only a small area at a time will help the child limit what they are looking at and concentrating on only one thing instead of a whole area. A magnifying glass to view close up.. and anything else you can think of :) but these bags are labeled with THEIR name, and taken out for outdoor adventure.

Hoop view.. Throw down a hula hoop, and see how many different things you can find in the area within the hoop. Ants, clover, grass, dirt.. expand your vocabulary..

Marcia

One of the favourite games of our kindergarten class is "What time is it Mr. Wolf?"

One classmate is "Mr. Wolf" and the rest of the class lines up at the end of the assigned running space. The students that are lined up, shouts out "What time is it Mr. Wolf".

Mr. Wolf says "1:00 o'clock" showing one finger again.....what time is

Mr. Wolf says "2:00 o'clock" showing two fingers again.....what time is it

Mr. Wolf says "3:00 o'clock" showing three fingers Again.....what time is it

Mr. Wolf says "Lunch Time" all the kids start running towards the end of the assigned space and Mr. Wolf must catch them. The child that is caught then becomes a wolf and both of them goes through the game again until all kids have been caught

Joanne Green

Today we took plastic easter eggs and, for the older children, had them race from one end of the yard to the next holding the egg on a tablespoon. The object of the game was to see who could get to the end of the yard first w/o cracking or dropping the egg. For the younger children I had them hold the egg inside a measuring cup and do the same thing. They had a great time with this.

Another fun springtime game is to have the children get on t heir hands and knees (you can have them pretend they are the EAster bunny if you'd like) and have them push the plastic eggs from Point A to Point B using only their NOSES!! THIS was hysterical to watch and so much fun!

This is a craft and outdoor activity rolled into one. My little ones love running around with paper plate wind kites.

Cut a paper plate in half.. One half per child. The children decorate their paper plate halves with markers, crayons, stickers etc.

Staple

colourful streamers onto the rounded edge, and add string or pipe cleaner "handle" to the flat edge.

Now they are ready for running in the breeze. Quick and easy.
Can be decorated according to your weekly learning themes.

CJs Child Care

What time is it, Mr. Fox?

One player is the fox and he/she will stand with his/her back turned to the others about 15 feet from the others. The others call out, "What time is it, Mr. Fox?" and the fox turns to face the others and shouts out a time. Eg: 9 o'clock. The others would then take 9 steps toward the fox. The group will take the same amount of steps toward the fox as the amount of hours in the fox's time. eg, 4 o'clock = 4 steps, 6 o'clock = 6 steps etc. etc. The fox will then turn his back to the group again for them to yell "what time is it...." (He looks at the group only when he shouts the time at the group").

When the group comes close to the fox the next time the group yells "What time is it, Mr. Fox?" the fox will say 'Its DINNER TIME' and run after the group who are running back to the start line, and hopefully catch one of the group who will then be the fox.

Baby if you love me smile.

Players form a circle with one player in the middle (it). The middle person must approach players in the circle and ask, "Baby, do you love me?" The person being questioned must answer, "Baby, I love you but I just can't smile." If she/he does smile or laugh, s/he becomes "it" and the previous middle person joins the circle. The person who is "it" is not allowed to touch other players but may make as many funny faces as she/he wishes.

Queen Bee

You pick a person for the Queen Bee, the Queen bee would pick an object in the backyard and they would only tell the color of the object. such as a red ball in the grass. The Queen bee would then say.

"Bumble Bee Bumble Bee

I see something you don't see

and the color of it is red"

The other players would start guessing objects that are red until someone figures out what it is. When the object was guessed correctly the bee with the right answer would become Queen Bee for the next round. Then he/she would pick an object and tell the color by saying repeating the rhyme and so forth.

To make it easier you can give hints such as it is under the tree. Children early as age 2 can also play if they know their colors.

The last 2 could be played indoors if wanted.

!

Then there are the ever popular outdoor games:

Red Light, Green Light

Red Rover, Red Rover

Hide and Seek

Doggy, Doggy Where's Your Bone?

Heads Up Sevens Up

Simon Says

Duck, Duck, Goose

Freeze Tag

Ring Around the Rosie

London Bridge

~DeAyn

Car/tube races

My husband attached 3-4 in PVC pipes on our fence at an angle, one on top of the other. The kids put the matchbox cars on the upper end and let go at the same time, and see who's car comes out the other end first.

I also had him put one tube on another section of fence, alot lower, but still at an angle and the little ones put tennis balls down them and run to the other side to get them. THEY LOVE IT

Special Blessings Daycare

What Time Is It, Mr. Wolf?

One player is picked as Mr Wolf. The wolf stands a distance away with their backs to the others. The players shout What time is it Mr Wolf and the wolf replies with a number e.g. '5 O'clock'. The players would then take 5 steps forward and then repeat the process. When the wolf shouts "dinner time", the wolf gets to chase the players, and the players have to run back towards the starting line. The person who is caught is then the wolf.

Darlene Goodman

Hi, These are some of the games we play with the small ones (2 & 3 year olds).

Sleepy Bear: The teacher or a kid performe as the Sleepy Bear and go to Sleep. The have to come and wake him up saying: "Sleepy Bear, wake up!!"(claping hands). The teacher run after them and if she catches one of them, that one is the next Sleepy Bear.

The croccodile: The children are all monkeys and the teacher is the croccodile. They all go near her cave or house singing: "One little monkey, teasing Mr. Croccodile..

You can't catch me, you can't catch me!" And the teacher says:"Here comes the croccodile as wild as a mouse and....SLAP!!! (I performe a movement with my hands as it was the croccodile's mouth)"and catch one of them. That one is the next croccodile.

Carolina Krauss

We love the famous duck, duck goose (I often change the duck and goose to suit my theme or holiday).

I will do bluebird, bluebird (thru my window) and let the kids pick what color bird they want to be.

We play Mr. Fox. Teacher chooses one child to be the Fox. He/she stands with his back to the rest of the class who are standing in a line. The lined children shout out "Mr. Fox, Mr. Fox what time is it?" The fox answers with a time. Then lined children then count that number of steps towards Mr Fox. When Mr Fox says Midnight all the children need to run back to a given spot before MR Fox catches them. IF Mr Fox touches them they are the next

child to be the Fox. Game continues until everyone has had a turn to be the fox.

Cheryl
