

Archive Story Box: School and Childhood Memories

Nature table

Go for a walk and collect or bring in a selection of seasonal natural finds for a display

to explore and discuss together

Ask participants to name the tree the leaves or seeds are from or flowers, bird feathers etc

Perhaps they know the names in Welsh too?

Talk about seasons, farming, rural life



Bring the outside in with the sound of bird song, woodlands etc

Participants might know this rhyme

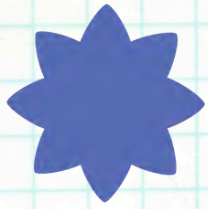
“The cuckoo comes in April, sings the month of May, changes its tune in the middle of June, and in July he flies away.”

These activities have been inspired by descriptions of the nature syllabus studied in schools found within the collections of North East Wales Archives. Examples of the syllabuses from schools in Froncysyllte (1920s) and Ruthin (1950s) can be found within this story box



Archifau Gogledd Ddwyrain Cymru
North East Wales Archives





Bird Song Quiz

Participants may recognise bird song - follow the link to play clips of common birds song and ask your participants to identify the bird.



Still life

Set up your nature table as a “Still Life”

Encourage participants to explore the objects through touch and if they want to, to draw all of part of it with the materials of their choice, pencil, water colour paints, pastels etc.



School dinners

Puddings

Blancmange

Butterscotch pudding

Jam tart with custard

Rice pudding

*Semolina with
strawberry jam*

Banana flan

Spotted dick

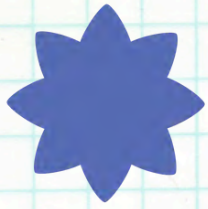
Chocolate pudding with chocolate sauce

Chocolate sauce with ice cream



What was your favourite school dinner and most memorable school pudding?





Play ground games

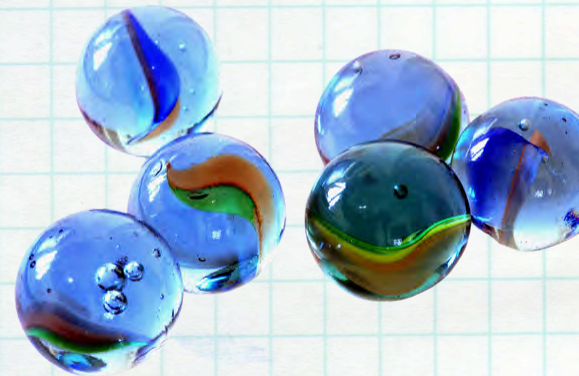
Instructions for a chatter box, cats cradle, hop scotch, jacks and marbles

What other games did you play at school?

How to play marbles

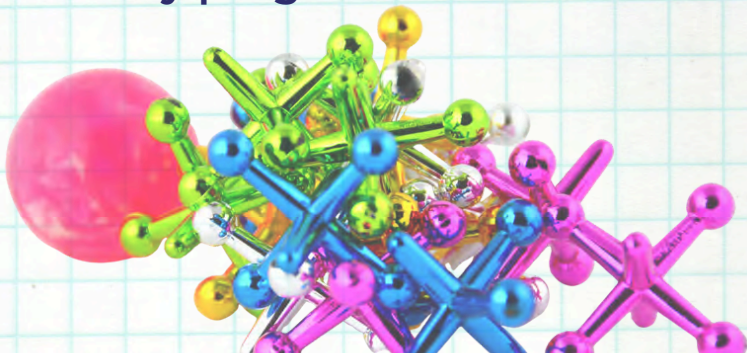
Players take turns with their “shooters” (larger marbles) trying to knock one or more of the “mibs” out of the ring. They must shoot from outside the ring (hands and all body parts must be outside), but can shoot from anywhere outside the ring.

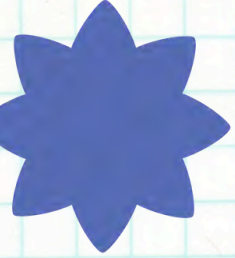
“Any marble larger than the majority may be termed a boulder, bonker, masher, plumper, popper, shooter, thumper, smasher, taw, bumbo, crock, bumboozer, bowler, tonk, tronk, godfather, tom bowler, fourer, giant, dobber, dobbert, or Biggie. A marble smaller than the majority is a peawee/peewee or mini.”



How to play Jacks

Scatter jacks in a small area. Player 1 tosses a ball in the air, then quickly grabs one jack before the ball bounces. With the same hand, the player grabs the ball just after the first bounce. If the player is successful, the jack is moved quickly to their other hand and they progress to the next round.





How to Play Hop Scotch

Use chalk to draw a grid like the one in the picture large enough to jump in the squares

Hopscotch can be played with one or more people.

Players take turns, standing in a line at the start/finish line.

Each player will go through the following steps:

Toss a stone in square one. Hop over the stone on the way out and pick it up on the way back.

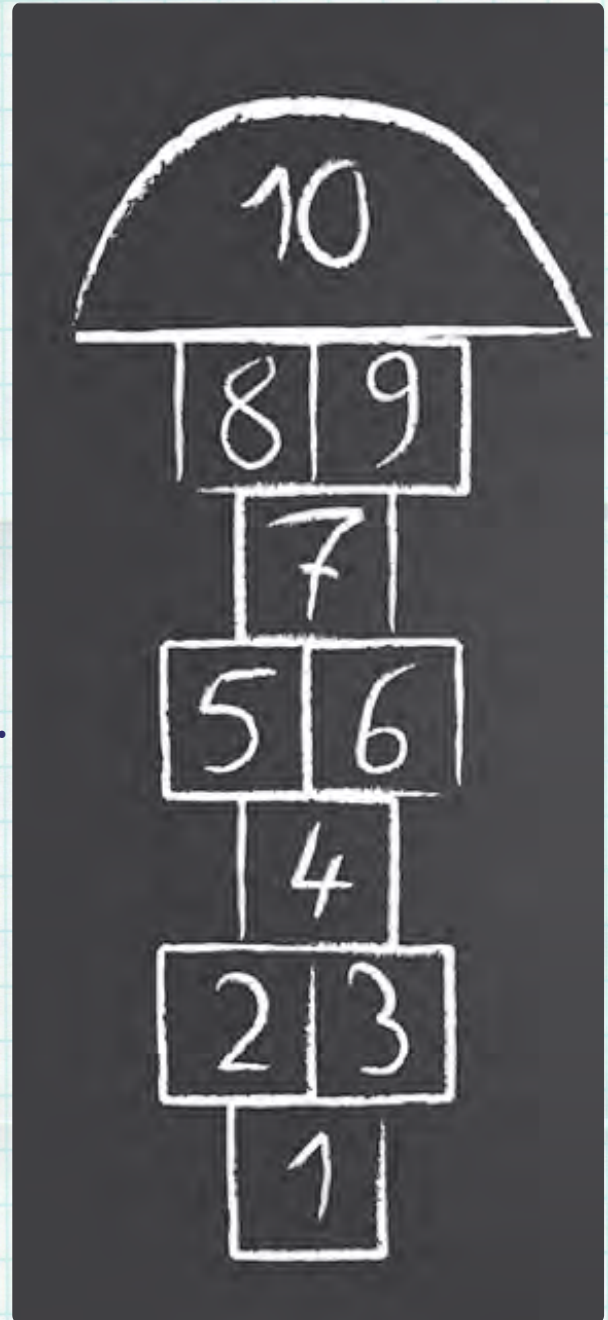
If the player misses the toss, pass the stone to the next player in line and return to the back of the line.

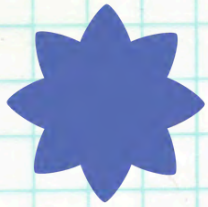
Hop in the first empty hopscotch square. Balance on one foot in single squares and both feet in side-by-side squares.

If the player, losing his/her balance or steps on a line, s/he returns to the line. On the way back to the start/finish line, pause at the square before the stone. Bend over and pick up the stone without moving feet.

Once the player's turn is complete, they pass the stone to the next player in line and goes to the end of the line.

After each player successfully completes a turn with the stone in square one, their next turn s/he tosses the stone in square two and so on until the player has completed all ten squares.





Cat's Cradle

Cat's cradle is an engaging game played with string. Variations of the game have been played for hundreds of years in many cultures. It's easy to learn and fun to see how long you and your partner can keep from dropping the string formations. The players learn how to change the string from one conformation to the next. People of all ages can play



REGULAR

SPECIAL STUDIES OF THE CAPITALS, SMALL LETTERS, AND FIGURES

A B C D E E F G H I J K L M
N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z
a b c d e f g h i j k l m n o p
q r s t u v w x y z 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 0.

Pupils who have studied and followed the explanations, suggestions, and instructions so far, will have sufficient control of the muscular movement to master easily the letters on this page.

Those who have not been thorough in studying the instruction and practicing the drills should review. Nothing less than failure can follow superficial study.

The capitals, small letters, and figures are given at this point for

convenient reference, and an effort should be made hereafter to employ these forms in all the written work.

One lesson each week should be devoted to special study and practice of the capitals until they are mastered.

Capitals, small letters, and figures will all be taught thoroughly in the following lessons.

A few minutes in the right way are worth more than hours of practice in the wrong way.

Hand writing practice

Chalk on small blackboards or on black paper copy the letters

How does it compare with how we are taught to write at school now?

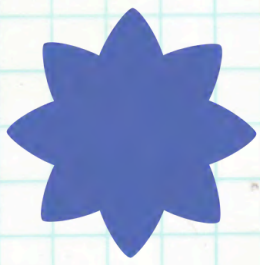
Measuring - inches vs cm

Modern versus old measurements

Use real rulers showing both inches and cm. Get the participants to measure everyday classroom objects in both units.

“If your book is 20cm long, how many inches is that?” Use visuals like charts, string, or blocks to compare lengths.

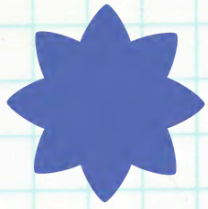




Sweets

Humbugs
Bulls eyes
Barley sugar
Spangles
Sherbet lemons
Sherbet fountains
Sherbet dips
Sherbet pips
Flying saucers
Space dust
Pear drops
Sour cherries
Rhubarb and custard
Pineapple cubes
Sour apples
Raspberry ruffles
Fruit salad
Fruit polos
Violets
Gobstoppers
Black jacks
Candy cigarettes
Coconut tobacco
Coconut mushrooms
Sugared almonds
Aniseed balls
Clove balls
Victory Vs
Extra strong mints

Fox's glacier mints
Penny arrow bars
Chocolate money
Five boys chocolate
Ovaltine chocolate bars
Horlicks tablets
Curly Whirlys
Butterscotch
Sno balls
Traffic lights
Sea shells
Cinder toffee
Treacle toffee
Toffee bonbons
Highland toffee
Edinburgh Rock
Liquoriceimps
Liquorice bootlaces
Penny chews
Lovehearts
Bulls eyes
Candy prawn
Spanish gold
Sugar mice
White mice
Refreshers
Jamboree bags
Kop kops
Indian sweets
Barfi



Make a paper fortune teller

Step 1: Crease a square piece of paper diagonally from each corner.

Fold the top right corner to touch the bottom left corner.

Crease the fold with your finger and then unfold it so your sheet is flat again.

Then take the top left corner and fold it over to the bottom right corner.



Step 2: Fold the paper in half from each side.

Bring the top edge of the paper to the bottom edge and crease the fold.

Unfold the paper so it's flat again and rotate it by 90 degrees.

Fold the new top edge of the paper to the bottom to crease it and then flatten it out again.

Your paper will have four lines intersecting in the middle.



Step 3: Bring the corners to the centre of the paper.

Start with one of the bottom corners and fold it to the middle

of the paper where the creases intersect.

Turn your paper 90 degrees and fold the other bottom corner toward the centre.

Keep rotating and folding your paper until you've made a smaller square containing four triangles.



Step 4: Put numbers in ascending order on the triangles.

Start with the No. 1 in the smaller top left triangle on the

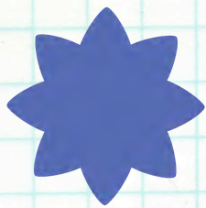
fortune teller. Write the numbers in ascending order

clockwise around the triangles until you get to eight.

Then pick four colors to write on the front side of the fortune teller.

add colors and numbers to paper fortune teller





Step 5: Write the fortunes underneath the flaps.
Open up the triangles labeled 1 and 2, and write a short fortune underneath each number. Write small so it fits in the space. Repeat the process under the flap for each number so you have eight different fortunes in all. Close the flaps once you've written all the fortunes.

Fortunes you can write:

"Something amazing is coming your way tomorrow."

"You will live a very long and happy life."

"Do a Good Turn today!"



Step 6: Slide your fingers underneath the squares to operate the paper fortune teller.

Ask a friend to choose a colour and spell it out.

Then pick a number and count it out.

As you do so, move your fingers with each letter and number called out.



Finally, pick another number to reveal their fortune.

Lift the flap for the number they picked. Read your friend's fortune out loud.

revealed fortune in paper fortune teller



**Nursery
Rhymes**



**BBC RemArc
Childhood**



**Archifau Gogledd Ddwyrain Cymru
North East Wales Archives**

