



# "TRADITIONAL CHILDREN GAMES IN TURKEY"





Every region of Turkey has a different history of cultural games the children have played, but similarities exist between the games in different regions.

Some games have a history throughout Turkey and even into other countries. Children's games can involve objects, such as sticks, pebbles, balls or knuckle-bones. The game may be an active game, with jumping and running, or be a riddle, rhyme or game accompanied by a song.





# 9 STONES

Numbers of participants :8 to 12 players

Materials : Stones , a ball

Firstly two groups are formed. Each group consists of 4–5 players. Then normalweighed stones – generally small marble stones are used – are set up overlapping. Player chosen the midwife tries to knock over the stones with a ball from a certain distance.





Midwife has to run away as soon he/she knocks down the stones. The ball this time is on the hands of the other group and this group tries the stones not to be overlapped by midwife his/her group. When midwife and his/her group completes the overlap of the stones without knocking by the ball, they beat the other team 1 to 0.









# TISSUE SNATCH

Tissue Snatch is played between the two groups having equal amount of players. Teams, leaving 20 – 25 meters of distance in between, line in parties. 50 cm diameter of a circle is drawn in the middle of the distance and a tissue or another material is put on the middle of the circle. A referee or a captain is chosen. This referee/captain could stand in the mid of the circle and handle the tissue. When the referee/captain shouts like “fifths”, the fifth players of the teams run to snatch the tissue.





The player who gets the tissue runs away and the other tries to catch him/her. If tissue snatched player returns to team without caught by the other player, makes the team win 1 point. If the other player catches the tissue snatched player, his/her team loses 1 point. Upon the tissue snatched player's return to team without being caught, referee/captain shouts another number and the play goes on. The more points gained, the team wins the play.





# GYROSCOPE-TOPAÇ

Name of the game : TOPAÇ -  
GYROSCOPE

Numbers of participants : Min. 2 players

Materials : A gyroscope

It is made of wood in the form of an ellipse with a sharp tip. Rope is wrapped around a spinning top.





One end of the rope is connected to the finger. Players toss it as quickly as possible. The winner is the one who spins the gyroscope long time. Few people can play the game at the same time. Gyroscope is adapted to the present day as Beyblade.





# Turkish Drafts “Dama”

Dama is known as Turkish Drafts and is a form of checkers played widely in Turkey. Unlike traditional Drafts or Checkers, the tiles move forwards or sideways, not diagonally. The counters move forward and when a piece reaches the back row it becomes a “dama”, or flying king. It can then move more freely, the way a rook does in the game of Chess.





Dama is played by 2 people on an 8 x 8 board. There is a total of 32 counters in two colours, the discs initially lined up in two lines of 8 at either side of the grid. The aim is to capture all of your opponent's counters or take away enough to stop them making any more moves.

Dama is a simple game and one to teach the kids.





# Mangala “Mancala”

Traditional intelligence and strategy game with a history going back five centuries in Turkish regions. Mangala is a popular board game which is played with 48 stones and two people or in groups.

Turkey's Foreign Ministry has praised UNESCO for adding the traditional strategic game mangala to the representative list of intangible cultural heritage of humanity.





Mangala is mathematical strategic game normally played by 2 people. It consists of 48 stones on a board with 12 small wells or pits arranged in 2 rows. Each player is in charge of 6 pits. The stones are shared out with 4 placed in each pit. Stones are then moved around the pits, the idea is to amass the most amount of stones in your pits thereby becoming the winner of the game.





LET'S LEARN OUR  
TRADITIONAL GAMES AND  
PLAY THEM TOGETHER.

Thanks for listening  
Sdal Erasmus Team