

Pippi's Irish Traditional Playground Games



1. QUEENIE-I-O Who has the Ball?

Items Needed:

One ball. (Any size can be used, but the smaller the ball, the bigger the challenge!)

Instructions:

1. A person is picked to be the "Queenie," and that person turns his/ her back to everyone else.



2. The "Queenie" then throws the ball over his/ her shoulder and one of the other players needs to catch it or pick it up.



3. Everyone, except the "Queenie", puts their hands behind their backs so that the "Queenie" does not know who has the ball.



4. The "Queenie" then turns around and everyone shouts:
5. *"Queenie-I-O who's got the ball?
Are they short, or are they tall?
You don't know because you don't have the ball!"*
6. The "Queenie" guesses which child has the ball.



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2. DONKEY

Items Needed:

One ball. (Any size can be used, but the smaller the ball, the bigger the challenge!)

Instructions:

1. The children stand in a circle and throw the ball back and forth between them



2. Each time the ball is dropped, the child who drops it gains a letter of the word "donkey".



3. The loser is the one who spells out "donkey" first.

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3. Elastics

Items Needed:

One set of elastics. We have used a pair of tights tied at the end of the legs together to make a 'rectangle' shape.

A group of at least three children is required to play this game.

Instructions:

1. Two children stand with the elastics around their ankles to form a rectangle shape.



2. Another child stands beside the elastics and jumps in and out of the elastics.

3. They might say this rhyme:

England, Ireland, Scotland, Wales,

Inside, Outside, Inside, Scales!

4. For *England, Ireland, Scotland, Wales*, the child stands beside the elastics and jumps sideways over them.



5. For *Inside* they jump into the elastics (without touching them!)



6. For *Outside* they jump and leave one foot either side of the elastics (without touching them!)



7. For *Scales* they jump and land with feet on top of the elastics.



8. For a further challenge, the elastics can be stretched wider apart OR moved higher up the players legs OR two players can jump at the same time.

We hope you really enjoy playing our games – we loved preparing them for you and Pippi loved playing too!



Slán leat!

