

# Ready, Set, Go... Outside and Play!



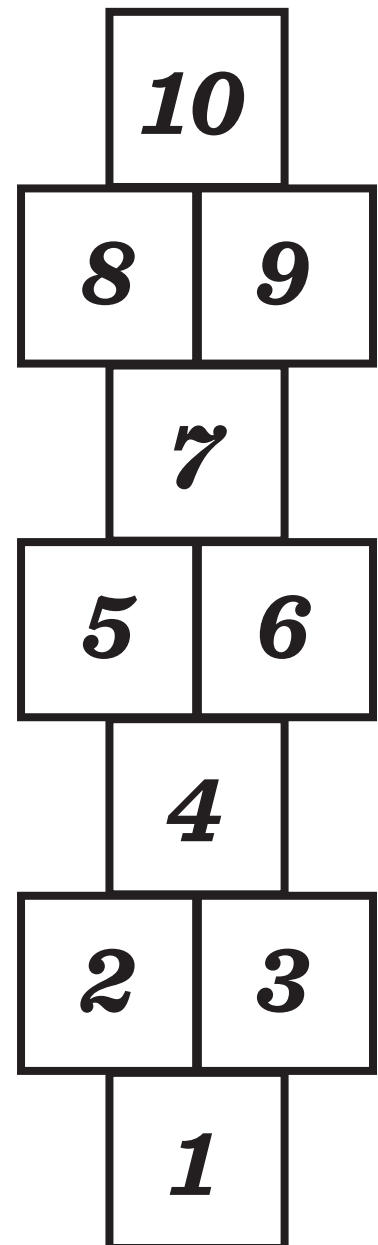
What do you like to play? Look closely at this image from the Autry Museum of a toy from long ago. What do you think the toy is? This toy is a Siberian Yupik toy ball that was made in Alaska. Balls are used to play many different games. Games are fun to play, and they teach us about the world around us. People play games both indoors and outdoors. The outdoors has been an important place for people to play in the American West for a long time. Hopscotch is a simple game that you can learn to play outside. Learn more about hopscotch by reading the information below.

## HOPSCOTCH

Roman soldiers are believed to be the first hopscotch players. They had to run through a 100-foot hopscotch court as part of their training long ago. Today, people play hopscotch by tossing a marker into a numbered hopscotch court and by hopping through it. With the help of an adult, follow the directions below to play hopscotch. The youngest player gets to go first. Ready, set, go... outside and play!

### Set-up

1. Find some other players, chalk, and a marker like a rock or a coin to play.
2. Find a safe place outside to draw a hopscotch court (see example) using the chalk.



# *Ready, Set, Go... Outside and Play!*

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## Let's Play!

1. A player starts by standing in front of the first square (#1).
2. The player gently tosses the marker into the first square (#1) before hopping. (Then the player gently tosses the marker into the second square and so on during later turns.)
3. The player hops through each of the squares in the hopscotch court. Each square gets one foot. The player skips the square with the marker in it by hopping over it.
4. Once the player reaches the last square (#10), the player turns around and hops back through each of the squares in the hopscotch court.
5. The player stops to pick up their marker before hopping in the square that has the marker in it.
6. Once the player reaches the first square (#1), the player gives the marker to the next player who repeats steps one through six.

## Rules of the Court

If any player hops on a line, hops in the wrong square, misses a square when hopping, or tosses their marker in the wrong square, they lose their turn. It then becomes the next player's turn. Players continue taking turns until one of the players completes steps one through six for each of the numbered squares in the hopscotch court.

## *Resources*

Siberian Yupik toy ball, made by Lucy Oseuk, Gambell, St. Lawrence Island, Alaska, circa 1977. Bleached, tanned, and dyed sealskins and dyed unborn seal fur, traditionally stuffed with reindeer hair. Southwest Museum of the American Indian Collection. Autry Museum; 2206.G.3