Cup & Ball Toy

Variations of a ball and cup toy can be found in cultures all over the globe. The French called it the bilboquet. The toy was so popular amongst children and adults in France that there was even a school dedicated to teaching people how to play. In Mexico, the toy is called “balero”. In Japan, they have a popular toy called “kendama”.



Nineteenth century bilboquet game. Source: Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum



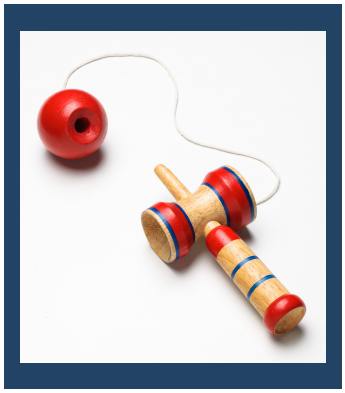
Standard cup & ball toy

For the standard ball and cup toy, the goal is to swing the wooden ball into the cup. The toy encouraged the development of hand-eye coordination.

This fun and simple toy was very popular amongst children during early Kansas settlement.



Mexican balero toy



Japanese kendama toy

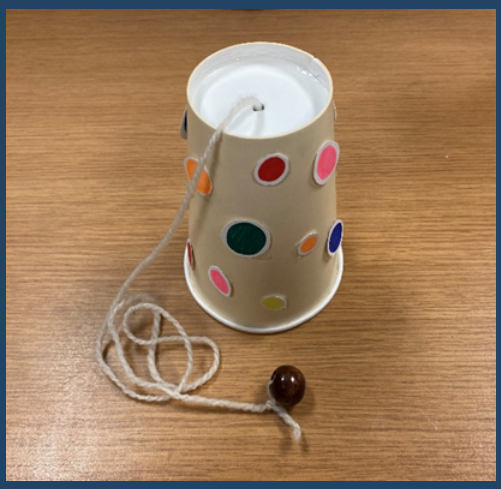
Other toys and games used by Kansas settlers include wooden spin tops and clay marbles.

Cup & Ball Toy

Supplies:

- Cup or small container
  - Paper cup, medicine bottle, yogurt cup, fruit cup, plastic bottle cut in half, etc.
- Yarn/string
- Ball or bead that fits inside the container.
- Stickers, markers, crayons, etc.

Tape



1. Pierce the bottom of the cup to create a small hole. You can also tape the yarn to the bottom of the container instead of creating a hole.
2. Thread a piece of yarn through the hole and tie a knot to keep it in place.
3. Attach the other end of the yarn to the ball or bead.
4. (Optional) Decorate the outside of the cup using stickers, markers, crayons, etc.









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