

Games People Play

Ideas for games, contests, and competitions.

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Hawaiian Alphabet Game

The Hawaiian alphabet is the smallest in the world. It consists of only 12 letters - 5 vowels (a, e, i, o, u) and 7 consonants (h, k, l, m, n, p, w). Play a game similar to Scrabble this month, using only the Hawaiian alphabet.

Set-Up:

- Sets of [ALPHABET CARDS](#) - one or more sets per player. (Print on heavy paper or glue to another sheet of paper so that the letters do not show through to the back of the cards.)
- Paper and pencils to keep score.



Number of Players:

Best played in small groups of 4-8 players.

How to Play:

1. Shuffle all of the [ALPHABET CARDS](#) and deal 12 cards to each player.
2. Give the players some time to make as many words as they can with their cards. Each card can be used only once.
3. When everyone is finished, add up the number of cards used to make words and that is the player's score.
4. Play as many rounds as you want.

Optional rule: In the Hawaiian language, you will never find 2 consonants together. A vowel always follows a consonant. Therefore, the word "halo" would count, but "plan" would not.

Variation:

Pass out sheets of paper with the Hawaiian alphabet listed across the top. See how many English words people can make using just the 12 letters of the Hawaiian alphabet. Make it a day-long event and include the staff.

'Ulu maika

'Ulu maika or 'olohu was one of the most popular sports in early Hawaii. It consisted of rolling carefully crafted [playing stones](#), somewhat resembling modern hockey pucks, on specially prepared courses. The stones were rolled between stakes to test a player's skills or rolled down long courses to show strength. One of the best of the remaining 'ulu maika courses, approximately 500 feet long, is located on the island of [Moloka'i](#). Play a variation of the game this month as part of our [Hawaiian Theme of the Month](#).



Equipment:

- Tennis balls
- Two 2-liter soda bottles full of water

Set-Up:

Put the two soda bottles in the middle of the playing area about 6 inches apart. Then, mark a line about 15 feet from the bottles. (Distance can vary depending on how tough you want it to be.)

To Play:

Players take turns trying to roll a ball between the two bottles. Give the players several chances if you want. Score one point for each successful roll.



Resources:

- [Ulu maika](#)
- [Rolling a Ulu maika](#)

More August Games!

- [Bingo Cards & Twists](#) - Play a game of "A-L-O-H-A Bingo" this month.
- [It's a Guy Thing](#) - Play a matching game with pictures of tailfins.
- [Just Picture It!](#) - Can you guess what's in the picture?
- [Bridging the Gap](#) - Play some "Colonial Days Games" with visiting children.
- If you are looking for some mind games, don't miss:
 - [It's Puzzling](#)
 - [It's Trivial](#)
 - [Cranium Crunches](#)

Toss Up!

[Toss Up](#) is an addictively dicey dice game!

Who's about to win this super-suspenseful game? It's a Toss Up! Once you start rolling greens, you'll think those reds will never appear. If they do, watch out - you could wipe out your points. Your goal is to get 100 points, but victory is up for grabs until the very end! It takes a little luck, a little strategy, and a whole lot of dice tossing.

People who are tired of the same old dice games (and beginners, too) will get a kick out of this fast-paced, fun-filled dice tossing game!

Toss Up! comes with a cool click case to store dice and rules.

For small groups of 2 to 6 players. Instructions in English and Spanish.

Check out the other [Games from Activity Basket](#).

