SCIENCE

Lesson 12

Year 4

Topic: Elaborating on forces

Games from other cultures

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories and cultures

In this lesson, students will explore how Aboriginal peoples use an understanding of contact and non-contact activities including games.

Aboriginal peoples and Torres Strait Islander peoples are warned that resources in this unit may contain images, voices and names of persons who may now be deceased.

Today you will:

► understand how people use their knowledge of forces to play games.

Resources

Digital

Video — Kai (2:12)

Find and prepare

Sheet 10 — Traditional games

Equipment to play traditional games (for example: tennis ball, beach ball, marbles)

Exercise book

Optional

Four feathers

Stiff cardboard

20c coin

Polystyrene cup

Piece of string at least 30 cm

Table tennis ball or ball of aluminium foil

Key terms

force

For definitions and explanations of terms, please see the Glossary.

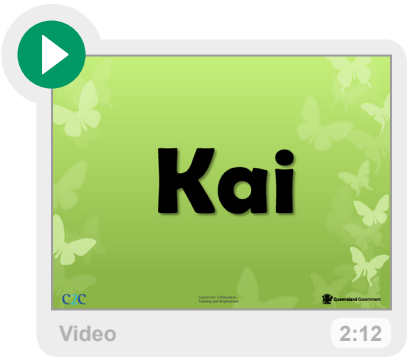
Lesson

Play a traditional game



In this lesson, you will participate in some traditional games. You will understand how people can use their knowledge of forces to play the games.

1. Watch the **Video — Kai**, which shows how the Torres Strait Islander traditional game *kai* is played.



2. List the forces being applied to the ball in the game *kai*.

Play games from other cultures

People have been playing games for thousands of years and they have played those games for a number of reasons.

- Games assist in the improvement of hand-eye coordination, and the ability to judge distance and speed.
- Many games were not used purely for play and entertainment, but were training for life skills such as hunting.
- Games included ball-style games, throwing games and hitting games.
- People used their knowledge of forces to help them play and design games.



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Did you know?

- People used a variety of things in their games, including pebbles, timber, animal bones and balls made from animal skins or plant fibres.
- Over time, these traditional objects have been replaced by more modern materials that suit the same purpose, such as rubber balls, glass or plastic game pieces.
- Many cultures have returned to using more traditional materials for their games in order to keep these customs and traditions alive.



Consider the environment surrounding the activity and the availability of free space. Materials used for games should be clean and free from sharp edges.

3. Open **Sheet 10 —** Traditional games and choose one game to play. Gather the equipment you need and play the traditional game.



Hot tip

Some of the games are for a single player, while others require two to eight players. Choose a game that suits the equipment you have and the number of players available.

Understand that modern games may have been influenced by traditional games. Examples of this include:

- The Maori game of *ki-o-rahi* is a traditional ball game played on a circular field and was played a lot before the colonisation of New Zealand. The game went into decline, but is becoming popular again in Maori communities. It is often thought of as being the forerunner to the game of Rugby.
- The Aboriginal game of *marn grook* (from the Gunditjmara language for 'ball game') is played by teams of men and boys using a ball made of possum twine. The best players were those who could jump the highest. Some people believe *marn grook* influenced the development of Australian Rules Football, but the evidence is not conclusive.

Draw a force diagram of a traditional game

4. Use your knowledge of forces to draw in your exercise book a force diagram of the traditional game you played.

Reflection

STOP

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students are warned that the website below may contain images and voices of deceased persons.

5. If you have access to the internet, you will find more games on:

   Website — Yulunga Traditional Indigenous Games (Australian Sports Commission)
   https://www.sportaus.gov.au/yulunga