

SELECTED CHILDREN'S FOLKLORE RESOURCES

MUSEUMS, LIBRARIES & COLLECTIONS

The Australian Children's Folklore Collection, Museums Victoria, Melbourne: One of the largest and most significant archive of its kind in the world, the ACFC documents children's play traditions from the 1870s to the present. It is one of the first collections in Australia to have been listed on the UNESCO Australian Memory of the World Register. It includes more than 10,000 card files and other documents recording children's games, rhymes, riddles, jokes, superstitions and other kinds of children's folklore, together with photographs, audio and video recordings, over 300 play artefacts and a number of specialist collections of field and research studies. Selected images available online.
<<https://collections.museumvictoria.com.au/articles/24>>

The Brian Sutton-Smith Library and Archives of Play, The Strong National Museum of Play, Rochester, NY. The Brian Sutton-Smith Library and Archives of Play is a multidisciplinary research repository devoted to the intellectual, social, and cultural history of play. In addition to housing the personal library and papers of its preeminent namesake, the 199,000-volume research library and archives holds a full spectrum of primary and secondary sources, including scholarly works, professional journals, other periodicals, trade catalogues, children's books, comic books, manuscripts, personal papers, business records, and more.
<<https://www.museumofplay.org/about/library-archives-play>>

The Dorothy Howard Collection, The University of North Texas Library: Dorothy Gray Mills Howard was a noted author and scholar of children's games and folklore. In 1954 she received a Fulbright post-doctoral research grant to study the traditional play customs of Australian children. Her research material from that study is now in the Australian Children's Folklore Collection. Dr Howard received many awards, including one from The Association for the Anthropological Study of Play, recognizing her for her significant contributions to the study of play in America and elsewhere. The American Folklore Society named an award in her honour, the Dorothy Howard Award for Excellence in Folklore. Online access to the archival list of records held.
<<https://findingaids.library.unt.edu/index.php?p=collections/findingaid&id=8>>

Fish Trout You're Out, National Library of Australia, Canberra, ACT: Online access to the archival records of fifteen separate collections of children's folklore from the NLA's Oral History and Folklore Collection.
<<http://www.nla.gov.au/fishtrout/>>

The Kelsey Collection, Centre for English Traditional Heritage, Sheffield, UK: Children's traditional games and rhymes collected in London by the late Nigel Kelsey between the 1960s and 1980s. Online access to a short description of this collection. (There is now a publication, *Games, Rhymes and Wordplay of London Children*, based on this collection.)
<<http://www.centre-for-english-traditional-heritage.org/kelseycollection.html>>

The Opie Collection of Children's Rhymes & Songs, The British Library, London: This is a set of recordings made by Iona and Peter Opie between 1969 and 1983 during research for *The Singing Game* (1985). Iona and her husband, Peter, dedicated their working lives to documenting children's play, folklore, language and literature and published several influential works. Online access to the sound recordings.
<<https://sounds.bl.uk/Oral-history/Opie-collection-of-children-s-games-and-songs->>

Playtimes: a century of children's games and rhymes, The British Library, London: Online access to a collection of film and audio recordings documenting 100 years of children's songs, rhymes and games, together with articles, video interviews and other resources.
<<http://www.bl.uk/playtimes>>

The Strong Museum of Play, Rochester, NY: The Strong is a highly interactive, collections-based museum devoted to the history and exploration of play. It is one of the largest history museums in the United States, and houses the world's largest and most comprehensive collection of historical materials related to play. The Strong is home to the National Toy Hall of Fame, the World Video Game Hall of Fame, the International Center for the History of Electronic Games, the Brian Sutton-Smith Library and Archives of Play, and publishes *The American Journal of Play*.
<<https://www.museumofplay.org/>>

PUBLICATIONS

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ONLINE RESOURCES

American Journal of Play. Published three times a year by The Strong Museum, Rochester, NY. Free online access to past and current issues: <<https://www.journalofplay.org/>>

Childhood, Tradition and Change. Online database from a nationwide study of children's playlore carried out in Australia between 2007-2010. Site contains selected text-based summaries of games and images, with additional information about the project.
<<http://ctac.esrc.unimelb.edu.au/>>

Children's Games, painting by Pieter Bruegel the Elder, c.1560, Kunsthistorisches Museum, Vienna. Interactive website: <<https://artsandculture.google.com/asset/children%E2%80%99s-games/CQEeZWQPOI2Yjg>>

Down Down Baby, handclapping rhyme on YouTube <<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pCyBMztWUFk>>
(There are many videos showing children's games and folklore on YouTube.)

International Journal of Play. A tri-annual, peer-reviewed academic publication focusing on all facets of play, published by Taylor and Francis. Available online by individual subscription, or as a printed publication to members of The Association for the Study of Play (TASP). <<https://www.tandfonline.com/loi/riip20>> <<http://www.tasplay.org/>>

Play and Folklore. Published from 1981 to 2016 in association with the Australian Children's Folklore Collection. Originally called *The Australian Children's Folklore Newsletter*, *Play and Folklore* was published online by Museum Victoria from 2002-16. All issues are available on the Museum's website for reading or downloading for free.
<<https://museums victoria.com.au/collections-research/journals/play-and-folklore/>>

Playtimes: a century of children's games and rhymes, The British Library, London: Online access to a large collection of film and audio recordings documenting 100 years of children's songs, rhymes and games, together with articles, video interviews and other resources.
<<http://www.bl.uk/playtimes>>

Kidsplaybook. Video archive of children's outdoor games from different countries and cultures, by Jules Oosterwegel. This is a combination of children's own games and team games played at school.
<<http://www.kidsplaybook.com/sample-page/>>

Traditional Outdoor Games, India. Web page with information about traditional outdoor games in India – links to other types of games also. Written descriptions, photographs and video.
<<http://www.traditionalgames.in/home/outdoor-games>>

Traditional Games in Malaysia. Web page with information about five traditional Malaysian games. Written descriptions, photographs and video. <<http://traditionalgamesinmalaysia.blogspot.com/p/types-of-games.html>>

Sanatoyplay, Jean-Pierre Rossi. An online video archive of Moroccan children's toys and play.
<https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=sanatoyplay+rossie+jp>

***Yulunga Traditional Indigenous Games,** Australia (downloadable pdf). This is an activity resource of over 100 traditional Indigenous Australian games created to provide all Australians with an opportunity to learn about, appreciate and experience aspects of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures. (*Yulunga means 'playing' in the language of the Kamilaroi (Gamori) people of north-western New South Wales.)
<<https://www.sportingschools.gov.au/resources-and-pd/schools/yulunga>>

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