



Kids Korner

Tobeta Maboko (African Clapping Game)

Tobeta Maboko is a game kids can often play at school or even between household tasks. It is essentially played like our “Rock, Scissors, Paper” game, only it is done with the feet to a clapping beat.

First, the clapping beat: The beat is a 1, 2, 3 pause 1, 2, 3 pause 1/beat. Second, the action: As the players clap the last, single beat they jump into the air. Then, in a quick motion as they are about to land, they make their choice. The choices are:

1. Right foot out in front.
2. Left foot out in front.
3. Feet split side-by-side.

For simplicity, we’ll say the Right Foot Forward (as it begins with “R”) will be ROCK (as it also begins with “R”). Next, we’ll say the Split (as it begins with “S”) will be SCISSORS (as it also begins with “S”). And finally PAPER will be the left foot forward as it’s the only one left. It is important to mention that the players (especially in pairs) be looking at each other’s faces and not the other’s feet! The game can be played with any number of participants or in small groups.

Variation 1: Illumination – Large group reduces to one last player as everyone competes with leader. All who win over the leader remain in the game and others sit down.

Variation 2: Round Robin – Large or medium size group. Stand in circle and begin with random player. The player “plays off” with person on the right. Loser sits and winner passes on to the next person on the right. Last one standing wins.

Variation 3: One-on-One – Pairs play for a set number of points. The first one to arrive wins. The players simply compete against each other and the winner gets a point.

Variation 4: Triples – Three players play and the “odd-man-out” gets a point. If all are different, they play again. Players try to avoid points and the first one to the set number ends the game and the lowest points win.



Watch a video of the clapping game at vimeo.com/paulcarlsonpartnership/clapping-game.

Snacks for Kids

Plantains
(fried bananas)

Materials needed:

- Plantains
- Knife
- Oil
- Pan
- Paper towels
- Salt

Directions:

1. Peel as a banana.
2. Slice as potatoes.
3. Deep fry or pan fry in oil.
4. Drain on paper towels.
5. Salt to taste.

Lingala Lesson for Kids

1. Mbote! (Mm-BOH-tay)
2. Ojali? (Oh-ZAH-lee)
3. Najali. (Nah-ZAH-lee)
4. Nkomo na yo nani (n-KOHM-boh nah yoh nah-nee)
5. Nkombo ny ngai (n-KOHM-boh nah n-g-ahee)
6. Ojali kosala nin? (Oh-ZAH-lee koh-SAH-lah nee-nee)
7. Merci mingi! (mair-SEE ming-GEE)

Hello!
 How are you?
 I am fine.
 What is your name?
 My name is (your name).
 What are you doing?
 Thank you very much!