

Batteries Not Included

Long ago, children didn't have TV, video games, or computers -- but they still had fun! Try these games at home after a visit to Historic Brattonsville.

Make a buzz toy

You will need:

A piece of string about 24 inches long

A 1-inch button with 2 holes

Thread the string through one hole of the button, and immediately back through the other hole. Pull the string until the button is in the middle, and then tie both ends of the string together, as though you were making a necklace. Then slide the button back until you have two equal-length loops of string on either side. Put your right index finger into the right-side loop, and your left index finger into the left-side loop. Pull the string tight. Twirl your right hand, as though you are winding a crank. Once the string is well twisted, immediately start pulling outward with both hands. With some practice, you will be able to make your button "buzz".

Play Blind Man's Buff

You will need:

A blindfold

Some friends to play with.

One player is the Blind Man and has a blindfold tied around his or her eyes. The other players call out and tease the Blind Man, who tries to catch them. Whoever is caught then becomes the Blind Man.

Play Puss in the Corner

You will need:

A square, empty room or an outdoor place where you can mark the four corners of a square

5 players

Did you know that Puss is an old word for cat? To play Puss in the Corner, one player stands in each corner. The fifth player, the Puss, stands in the middle of the room. The Puss calls "Poor Puss wants a corner!" All the players run to a new corner, but the Puss tries to beat them there. Whoever is left without a corner becomes the new Puss.

