

During recess students played many different games. They did not have many toys, so all of these games are played with just children!

The following schoolhouse and yard games are derived from <http://www.pioneersholesschool.org/> :Bancroft, Jessie H. *Games for the Playground, Home, School and Gymnasium*. New York: Macmillan, 1915.

### **KALEIDESCOPE**

The players are seated, with the exception of four or five who stand in front. Each of the standing students is given the name of a color. He then states that color. The seated players close their eyes. Then the standing players rearrange themselves. The seated students open their eyes. The one called upon must now recite the names of the colors in the order in which the standing players are now arranged. For example, red, green, blue, yellow rearrange themselves to yellow, red, blue, green.

### **THE MINISTER'S CAT**

This is an alphabet game that can be played forward and backward. The first player chooses an adjective beginning with a to describe the Minister's cat. For example, "The minister's cat is an avaricious cat." The second player repeats the words of the first, then adds an adjective beginning with b, such as "The minister's cat is an avaricious, brazen cat." The play continues all the way through the alphabet, and may reverse from z to a, if the letter x is excluded.

### **ITISKIT, ITASKIT**

One player walks clockwise outside the circle with a handkerchief. Other players move clockwise as they sing:

Itiskit, Itaskat,  
A green and yellow basket;  
I wrote a letter to my love  
And on the way I dropped it.  
I dropped it,  
I dropped it,  
And on the way I dropped it.  
Some one of you has picked it up  
And put it in his pocket;  
It isn't you --it isn't you-

The last line is repeated until the player with the handkerchief cries, "It' s YOU!" He then drops the handkerchief behind one of the players who must pick it up and immediately start around the outside of the circle clockwise. The player who dropped the handkerchief attempts to return to the opening first by moving counterclockwise. The one who is left out takes the handkerchief for the next round.