

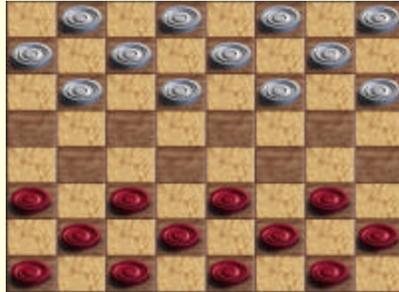


# Pastimes and Pleasures



Today we like to play games and participate in activities that help to pass the time in an enjoyable way. Four hundred years ago people were no different. The Powhatan, African and English people who came into contact in Virginia also enjoyed games, music and stories. Let's explore the activities of past times, and see which ones are familiar to us today!

Board games were popular with the Africans and English.

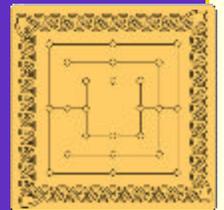


Chess and Checkers (draughts) were board games popular with the English.

In parts of Africa people enjoyed games called Mancala and Senet.



Have you ever seen this game before? It is called Nine-Men's Morris. It was played by people in many countries, including the English.



Have you ever played the game in the English street scene gallery? What is the name of this game?



Did you know? All three cultures played games that used dice!

What are your favorite board games?



I will see thee later, dude, in English class.

There was no TV to watch in the 1600s, but the English enjoyed plays and stories. Find the talking stick in the English street scene gallery and you will hear part of a famous play by William Shakespeare called "The Tempest."

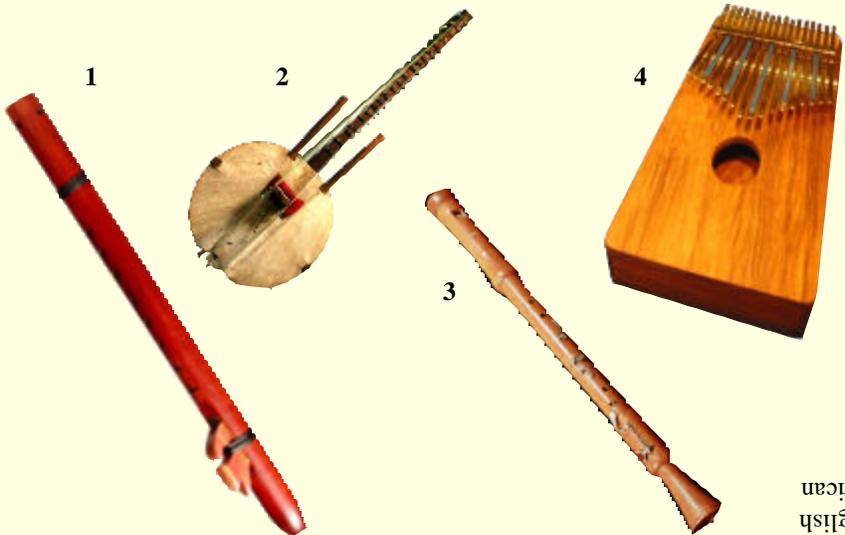


The Powhatan enjoyed athletic sports like wrestling and races, along with games similar to soccer and field hockey.



The people of the English, African and Powhatan cultures all enjoyed playing and listening to music. Do you enjoy music? In the 1600s, all music was "live!" Can you guess which of the instruments below was from which culture? At home, look for traditional music from each culture that you can listen to.

Find an exhibit that compares a doll and a yo-yo of the type made in the 1600s with the same toys today. Could the toys of the 1600s have been made at home? The purpose of these toys hasn't changed much over the centuries. What has changed?



- 1) American
- Indian
- 2) African
- 3) English
- 4) African

When you go outside to the living history areas, try out the pastimes in each interpretive area!