



Australian Government
Australian Sports Commission

ngor-go

'nor-go'



SCHOOL
YEARS
K-3

SCHOOL
YEARS
4-6

Background

A form of spin-ball was played among the lower Tully River people. The spinner was made out of a gourd of the *Benincasa vacua*. This game was played by women more often than men.

It was known among the Mallanpara people of north Queensland as *ngor-go*, after the name of the gourd used.

Short description

Making and playing with a spinner toy.

Equipment

- Use a very large button or object such as a flat stick or small round wheel from a toy.
- Sticks may be used at the end of the string to protect the thumb/fingers when the spinner is twirled.
- A length of strong twine up to 2 metres.

Game play and basic rules

- Two holes are drilled either side of the centre of a small wheel or other object. A length of string is passed through both holes and joined to form a large loop with the spinning object in the centre.
- A thumb is inserted at either end of the loop of string, and the 'spinner' rotated over and over.
- The hands extend and the doubled string untwirls the ball or spinner. The hands are brought together and the spinner untwirls in the reverse direction. Continue in this manner so it may be kept spinning for a long time.

Comment

This is an activity that has been observed as part of play culture in many parts of the world.