Outdoor Games

*Here are some fun outdoor games that you can play without needing any equipment.*

* **Races:** Choose a starting place and a finish line — they could be a tree or a picnic shelter or the edge of the parking lot — and pick your pace. You could run, skip, hop, walk backwards, or do a relay.
* **Red Rover:**You’ll need at least six people (more is better!) to play this old-fashioned schoolyard game. Two teams are formed and each team takes turns calling a member of the opposite team to try to break through the other team’s chain of linked arms. Read more [detailed rules](http://www.grandparents.com/grandkids/activities-games-and-crafts/red-rover) for the setup.
* **Duck Duck Goose:**This game is a favourite among little kids (if it’s been awhile since you played, [review the rules](http://www.parentdish.com/2011/05/13/duck-duck-goose-game/)) and is a good way to focus a group of young kids, since all but one or two of them will be sitting for most of the game.
* **Blob Tag**: A fun variation of classic tag where when you’re tagged, you join hands with “it” and have to try to tag the others as a group. The more people who are tagged, the more unwieldy the chain of “it” becomes!
* **Silly Symphony:**[Silly Symphony](http://www.ultimatecampresource.com/site/camp-activity/silly-symphony.html) is fun to play in the woods or other areas where there are plenty of natural materials like sticks, rocks, and leaves. Players are given some time to find natural objects that can make a noise, such as two rocks that can be struck together or a blade of grass used as a whistle. One person is the “conductor” and conducts the orchestra of sounds by waving at each person to play their “instrument.”
* **Sharks and Minnows:**In this [variation of tag](http://www.playworks.org/blog/game-week-sharks-and-minnows), the person who is it is the shark, and everyone else is a minnow. The minnows walk slowly to the shark, who at any point can yell “shark attack!” and try to catch a minnow before they reach “base”. If caught, the minnow becomes the next shark.
* **Poison Frog:**In this [circle game](http://www.youthgroupcollective.com/mixers/poisondartfrog), one person is chosen (by someone not playing the game) to be the frog, and another to be the detective, who sits in the middle of the circle. The chosen poison frog “kills” off the players one by one by making eye contact and sticking their tongue out at the person (dramatic “deaths” by the players make the game more fun), while the detective tries to decide who the killer is.
* **Sardines**: In this inversion of hide and seek, only one person hides and everyone else tries to find him. When someone finds the hider, that person joins him in the hiding spot. The last person to find everyone is the next person to hide.