

Kim's Game

“Kim’s Game” became popular in the early-20th Century after it was described in Rudyard Kipling’s book, Kim, published in 1901. It is still a popular memory game played today.



Materials:

- 10 - 15 items from around your house (small enough to fit in your pocket)
- A flat surface
- A cloth, towel, sheet, etc. to cover up the items all at once
- Paper and pencils

Instructions:

1. Gather up several small items from around your house. They should be things that can fit in your pocket (a battery, paperclip, small toy, crayon, marble, etc.)
2. Place the items all together on a tray or a table. Arrange them fairly close together and cover them with the cloth.
3. Find at least one other person to play with (you can play with any number)
4. Uncover the items and give the players about 30 seconds to look carefully at the items.
5. After they have looked for the allotted time, cover everything back up with a sheet.
6. Ask the players to write down as many items as they can and see how many they remember.

Variations:

- Adjust the time the players have to look to make it harder/easier.
- Adjust the number of items to make it easier or harder.
- Instead of writing down what they remember, have the players leave the room and you remove one item from the group. Then call them back in and see if they can guess what is missing.
- Experiment with the way the items are arranged or whether they are all part of the same category. What makes the game easier or harder?