



THE SPINNING TOP SAYS ...

We created this game

The first grade, Primary School Dragotin Kette, Slovenia

The name of our Biosphere Reserve

Karst Biosphere Reserve (and Reka River Basin)

We created our game by choosing the following criteria:

Our game has part of its origin in a different time

The whole class can participate simultaneously

The game teaches us about nature

The game trains us to be considerate to each other

The game provides an added value to the schoolyard or the place where the game is played.

More information about our game

Our game is based on what we can find in our school yard

What is the goal of the game?

The game »The spinning top says ...« is meant for outside relaxation (school park). All those who had fun and exercised while playing the game are the winners.

The game is most fun if everybody plays it. As a possibility, we can also propose it to smaller groups and pairs.

Rules

For the game, we need:

- A box as the base / grounding,
- Papers with differently painted fields on which the game instructions are written,
- A toy from the time of our grandmothers – a spinning top (we used to call it Marjanca).

We can also make a spinning top ourselves so that we push an old marker through the holes that we previously made in the plastic oval egg of a Kinder Surprise egg.



Game rules:

The pupils stand in a circle. In the middle of the circle, there is the box with the spinning top. In intervals, the pupils line up and spin the spinning top each time another one. Each field on which the spinning top falls has a written assignment (e.g.: describe a specific plant, hug a tree, sing a song, go down the slide, scream from the top of your lungs etc.) which the whole group should perform.

»The spinning top says ...« game enables countless possibilities for learning while playing. If needed the teacher can change the colored sheets with assignments and add some new according to different educational fields and subjects. The assignments can be also prepared for playing at the school park in different seasons of the year.

The pupils can also make their own spinning top and their own »The spinning top says...« game.

Activities and tasks that are involved in the game as the pupils of the afternoon stay in school designed it:

- Hugging the tree,
- Running around the park,
- Hiding behind the tree, Hide and seek game,
- Sliding,
- Describing plants, animals... in the park,
- Singing,
- Screaming aloud,
- Doing squats.

Pictures of our class when playing the game

Look at film <https://youtu.be/WyemD2vWdo8>



Photo 1: The base of “The spinning top says...” game

Photo 2: Different bases with diverse activities and examples of spinning tops



Photo 3: Pupils of the 1st grade and the teacher
Laura Novak

Photo 4: The game starts.



Photo 5: Hug a tree.

Photo 6: Go down the slide.

Author: Laura Novak

Photo: Anja Frank