



Australian Government
Australian Sports Commission

turi turi

'tur-i tur-i'



SCHOOL
YEARS
K-3

Background

In the northwest-central area of Queensland, the Maidhargari children made a type of skipping-rope (*turi turi*) from the long roots of the *Bauhinia* (Queensland bean tree), or white-gum, which grew near the water's edge.

A vine rope was used in the same way by Wogadj children on the Daly River in the Northern Territory.

Language

The name of the game is taken from the language of the people near the area where the game was described:

Nayu patyanur namalpunu wululu kanpin
I'm watching the kids playing.

Short description

This is a simple skipping game for younger children.

Players

- A group of about six players

Playing area

- A designated area suitable for the activity

Equipment

- A skipping rope up to 6 metres long as the *turi turi*

Game play and basic rules

- The rope is held by two players, who swing it backward and forward (side to side) — it is not swung overhead.
- One player at a time takes a turn for a number of jumps or jumps the rope once, moves away from the rope and waits for his or her next turn. Another player takes his or her place and players follow each other in order.

Suggestion

This activity is suitable for younger children.

Teaching points

- Rope turners ready. Skippers ready. Off we go.
- Swing side to side. Wait for the rope.
- Keep jumping.
- Watch the rope. Good.
- Another turn.
- Next skipper.