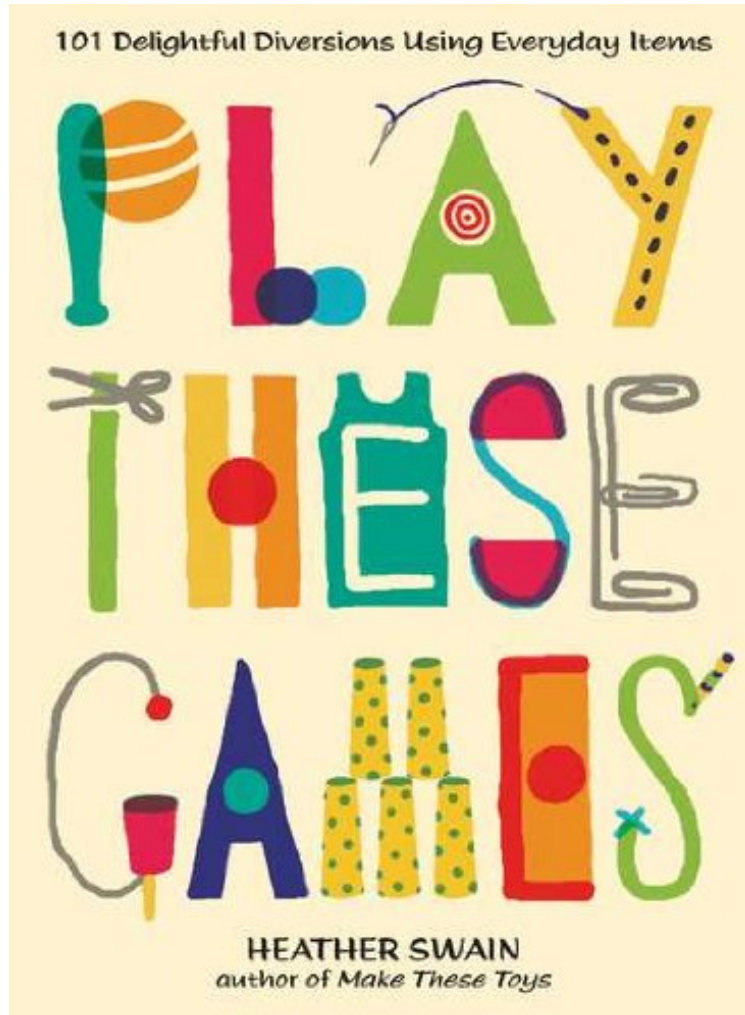


Play These Games: 101 Delightful Diversions Using Everyday Items

Heather Swain

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Heather Swain : Play These Games: 101 Delightful Diversions Using Everyday Items before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Play These Games: 101 Delightful Diversions Using Everyday Items:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Creative playBy Peter Pumpkin EaterThe best toys cost close to nothing, and can be made from around the house. This book tels you how.1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Need something to keep the kids occupied? Check out this book!By MarcieThere's 104 days of summer vacation, And school comes along just to end it, So the annual problem for our generation, Is finding a good way to spend it, Like maybe...." This is the beginning of the opening theme song to Phineas and Ferb on The Disney Chanel. If you have kids or work with kids there is a good chance you are familiar with this cartoon. If not, you should look it

up. It's actually very entertaining for a kid's show. However you might be asking yourself what the cartoon and Play These Games have in common. Well, just like the cartoon you might be wondering what to do on your (kids) summer vacation. Heather Swain has some pretty good ideas in this book. "101 Delightful Diversions Using Everyday Items." This is one of the things I like best about this book. These games use everything from balloons, paper, buttons, books, and much much more. Even if you do need to go out and buy a few items, it won't be that expensive. Swain also introduces new variations to classic games such as tag and ping pong. Swain also gives facts about the materials mentioned in this book to go along with the games. You can play these games with just a few kids or a larger group. These games are easy to play with minimal preparations. This book would be great year round for rainy days or birthday parties. This is a great book to have to get the kids out from in front of the television/video games. The only danger in this book is having too much fun!

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. EnjoyedBy Romancing the BookPosted on Romancing the Book's blogReviewed by Sarah L.Review Copy Provided by the PublisherPlay These Games is the perfect handbook for those looking for inexpensive, easy to play games for a variety of ages and number of players. This book would have been a lifesaver for me the summer I was the games instructor at my son's day camp or even back when I had my own in-home daycare. Each game has good detailed instructions including how many players, a brief overview of the game, materials needed, prep work and how to play. While the illustrations are fairly basic, they are still easily understandable. The games are broken down by categories such as balloons, hula hoops, paper, cardboard boxes, etc. Each category starts off with interesting tidbits about the main item. For example, did you know that "early balloons were made from dried animal bladders"? The book is filled with lots of fun, interesting facts. Most of it probably could be called useless trivia but the kids and I got a huge kick out of it. The book kind of reminded me of the game show Minute to Win It. I like how basic everyday stuff around the house was used in fun and unique ways. One thing I would have liked to have seen included was alternate directions for some of the games involving lots of players so they could be adapted to smaller groups. Some categories like balloons seemed to have mostly games for 3+ players but buttons however were geared more for 1 or 2 players. Finally, I like the variety of skill levels throughout. Some games such as balloon battle or house of books were pretty basic but some like the pinball machine and mini foosball were much more elaborate and will be tackled sometime in the future. My family's favorite so far is indoor tennis.

Using simple, everyday items found around the house, Play These Games will inspire kids and the young at heart with a spectrum of ingenious games to make and play so they'll never be bored again! Gather family photos to create a personalized set of Go Fish cards Grab loose buttons for button golf, shuffle button, and button hockey Unleash your inner pinball wizard with a clothespin and cardboard box version of the arcade classic Get out the hula hoops and brooms for a backyard jousting tournament Try one of fifteen variations of the classic game of Tag Whether its competitive or cooperative, for large groups or duos, the games in this clever guide are fun to create and a blast to play.

About the Author Heather Swain is a former third-grade teacher, a mother of two, and an award-winning fiction author. Her articles have appeared in American Baby Magazine and Time Out New York Kids, and on Salon. You can visit her blog, One Cheap Mother, and find out about her young adult novels at www.heatherswainbooks.com.