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a game by Jonathan A. Leistiko

Object

The Dinosaurs try to tag the Mammals, and the Mammals try to tag the Dinosaurs. (Geez! It's a game of tag with a silly title, so the only real object is to run around, act silly, and have fun.)

You Need

- At least one group of three people to make a Dinosaur.
- Two or three people to play Mammals.
- Space to run around in safely.

Setup

- For every five or six people playing, pick three people to group together to be a Dinosaur. Dinosaur players have to keep touching at least one other player of their Dinosaur at all times (by linking elbows, or holding hands, or whatever - ideally, all players in a given Dinosaur will have at least one hand free).
- All other players are Mammals. They get to scamper about on their own (Mammals are much smaller & faster than Dinosaurs).

play! >>

Dinosaurs and Mammals

an invisible city productions game
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Play

- The game begins when the Dinosaur bellows out its blood-curdling hunter's roar - let those tiny little Mammals know you mean business!
- Only tags made with one or two hands on any part of the body other than hands or head are legal tags.
- It takes ten tags to tag out a Dinosaur, but tagging any player on a Dinosaur counts as a tag for the whole Dinosaur. When a Dinosaur player is tagged, they should call it out; one player in the Dino should keep track of the number of times the entire Dino has been tagged.
- It takes only one tag to tag out a Mammal (Mammals are more fragile than Dinosaurs).
- A tagged-out Mammal must sit down where they were tagged out and wait for about 2.5 minutes before they may come back into play (Mammals breed much more quickly than reptiles do!).
- A Dinosaur may gain back a tag that they've lost by 'eating' the corpse of a Mammal. To do this, the Dinosaur must rest a hand on a tagged-out Mammal and count out loud to ten-thousand by thousands (this doesn't stop that Mammal from being 'reborn' later, though).

Winning

- The game ends when all Dinosaurs or All Mammals are tagged out. (See the parenthetical comment next to Object, above.)

Origin and credits

- This is a game that I played a while ago with a bunch of friends one afternoon on the grass behind The Wall in front of Old Main, at Penn State University.
--Jonathan A. Leistiko

Enjoyed this game? Let us know: jonathan@invisible-city.com