



# BEGGING STICKS

Begging Sticks was a game often played by Indians here in the east. It was played in idle time and as a gambling game.

## MATERIALS

To play Begging Sticks you'll need:

- an even number of wood or antler disks painted red on one side and left white on the other
- several sticks painted red
- an equal number of sticks unpainted (left white)
- a wooden bowl that will hold all the disks (in one layer)

## HOW TO PLAY

Begging Sticks was usually played by two people, but you can play with two teams. Place all the disks in the bowl with equal numbers of each color showing. The red and white teams should both have an equal number of sticks before the game starts. Either team may start the game by picking up the bowl and tapping it on the ground hard enough to make most of the disks flip over and jump around. After the bowl is flipped each team counts the number of disks of their color. The team who has the least disks of their color must give one of their sticks to the other team. Then the other team taps the bowl on the ground. The teams alternate tapping the bowl and winning/losing sticks until one team has all the sticks. The team with all the sticks wins.