**Site of Documentation**

Bangkok, Thailand

**Description**

*Crow Takes Care of its Eggs* has been played by many generations of children living in Bangkok and remains a firm favourite to this day. The aim of the game is for players to try to outwit the crow and steal the guarded eggs without being caught.

**Who Plays?**

This game requires at least three participants and can be played by both boys and girls. It is most popular with children aged 10 years or older.

**Accessories/Equipment**

To play the game a number of small items are needed to represent the crow’s eggs. These can either be plastic eggs or other substituted objects such as small balls, shoes or empty bottles.

**Time and Place**
This game can be played indoors all year round or outside when the weather is cool and dry. It requires a large flat area and an abundance of nearby spaces where the eggs can be hidden once they have been stolen. Each game lasts between 15 minutes and an hour, depending on the skill of the players.

**Skills, Strategies and Qualities of a Good Player**

This is a game of speed, mental alertness and agility. Players must be ready to pounce on (or protect) the eggs at every moment of the game. As the crow, players need to be aware of impending attacks from their opponents and be strong and quick enough to fend them off as they occur. The players trying to steal the eggs must be able to detect when the crow is distracted and swiftly act on the opportunity. Players that work together as a team will often be the most successful at stealing the crow’s eggs.

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**Preparation**

1. The group must first gather together a number of small items to represent the crow’s eggs.

2. Using chalk, a stick or stone, players must draw a large circle on the ground which stretches approximately 4 feet in diameter. Inside this circle, players must draw another smaller circle, which is approximately 2 feet in diameter. The eggs must then be placed inside the smaller circle, ready for the game to commence.

**How Is The Game Played?**

Step 1: The first step is to select which member of the group will play the role of the crow. Once chosen, the crow needs to stand in the smaller circle with their legs stretched out over the pile of eggs. All the other players will surround him, standing just outside the larger circle.
Step 2: The players standing outside the circle play the role of thieves and their task is to try to steal the crow's eggs. To do this they have to step inside the circle and make a grab for the eggs when the crow is not looking. The thieves must keep trying until all the eggs are stolen. The crow has to fend off the thieves by pushing them away or blocking their hands from the pile. If one of the players is caught by the crow while they are inside the area of the large circle, they must immediately trade places with them. The game then restarts with the new crow.

Step 3. If the crow has not been able to catch any of their opponents and the eggs have all been stolen, the players move onto the final stage of the game. In this stage the crow must retrieve his lost eggs. First, one of the thieves blindfolds the crow by tying a cloth or scarf over his eyes. While the crow is blindfolded all of the other players must carefully hide their stolen eggs in different places nearby.
Step 4. When all the eggs are hidden, the crow may remove the blindfold and begin to search for their lost eggs.

Step 5. The thief whose egg is found first becomes the crow and the game begins again.

Rules

1. The players that are trying to steal the eggs must avoid being caught by the crow while they are inside the large circle. If they are, then the game is restarted and that player takes the place of the crow.

2. The player that hid the egg that is found first plays the crow in the next game.