

<b>Name of the Game</b>	Spud
<b>Summary</b>	Also known as “Call the Ball” or “Three-Step”, this game is a real classic and can be played in-doors or out-.
<b>Number of Players</b>	5-12 players plus an optional referee
<b>Equipment</b>	A soft, throwable ball like a playground rubber ball or a Nerf®-like dodgeball. Variant rules of the game call for a blindfold, a foam water noodle, or more balls...
<b>Duration</b>	10 to 30 minutes depending on the size of the group
<b>Rules</b>	<p>A group of players cluster around a soft ball. Each player is assigned a number. Someone throws the ball into the air and calls the number of one of the others in the group.</p> <p>All run away except the called player, who must catch the ball and call, “spud!” at which point all others must freeze wherever they are.</p> <p>The called player, now holding the ball, make take up to three steps to get close to those who have fled, then attempt to hit one or more others with the ball.</p> <p>Anyone hit by the ball receives the letter “S” (subsequent hits earn players a “P”, “U”, and a “D”, at which point they are out of the game).</p>
<b>Variants</b>	<p><i>Blind Spud</i> – The called player must close his/her eyes when calling “spud!” The referee places a blindfold on the player before play continues. This variant is good for older, more skilled players or when playing indoors or in a smaller space.</p> <p><i>Spear Spud</i> – Replace the dodgeball with a foam water noodle, which is thrown like a spear.</p> <p><i>Triple Spud</i> – After calling “spud,” the referee provides a couple of extra balls, which the called player can use to make additional hits. This option is helpful when the group is large or if time is limited...</p>
<b>Youth Leadership</b>	The role of the referee can be played by a youth leader or a youth appointed by the SPL. This youth will lead the game, settle any disputes (by assigning extra SPUD letters to those who do not freeze quickly enough, for example), remove players who’ve earned their full SPUD, give encouragement, and basically keep the game fun.