

Make Your Own Card Games

Story By: Andrew Frinkle

It was raining AGAIN. It seemed like it had never stopped raining this month, and it was summer vacation! They were supposed to be playing, swimming, running around, and having a great time. Instead, they were bored and stuck inside.

John and Scott sat around staring at the wall. They'd beat all their video games. They'd worn out all of their books. They'd read each of their comic books like a dozen times. Then they'd played all the board games in the closet. They were b-o-r-e-d.

Mom poked her head into the room. "Play a game or something."

"We've played them all." They chimed back at her.

"Then make up a new one." She suggested.

John and Scott looked at each other. It was actually a cool idea. They ran and got scissors, colored pencils, paper, and pencils. They had everything they needed to make a game.

"Should we make a board game?" John asked his brother.

"No, those get old after one or two plays. How about making a card game?" Scott suggested.

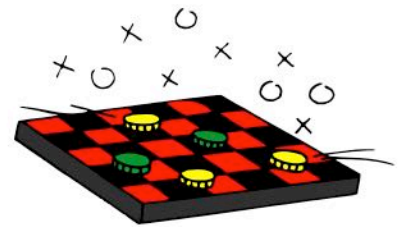
"Cool." John grinned.

First, they cut out a whole bunch of rectangles. They had to go get a ruler to make sure they were just right. Then, they decided to make it a game of monsters versus heroes. John worked on the borders and card designs, while Scott did the art in the middle of the cards and made up the rules.

It took the two of them until lunch to get the basics worked out. They ate lunch hurriedly, and then rushed back to work. It still wasn't ready that evening, although they had nearly enough cards to play.

The next two days, they worked on more cards, hardly caring about the weather. They went crazy on the game! Before they knew it, they'd come up with nearly 50 cards and a whole set of rules. It was kind of like rock-paper-scissors with cards, but different. Each card had a power, and some cards could beat some cards but not others. Even Dad played a few times at night.

They had a great time playing, and even when they went outside, they still enjoyed talking about their game with friends and thinking up new ideas. From then on, whenever they got bored, they made their own games!



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Use the information in the story to answer the questions below.

1. What sort of activities has John and Scott NOT tried?
 - A. video games
 - B. reading comics
 - C. playing music
 - D. board games

2. Who suggests that they should make their own game?
 - A. John
 - B. Scott
 - C. Mom
 - D. Dad

3. What sort of game does John suggest first?
 - A. card game
 - B. board game
 - C. sports game
 - D. video game

4. What is the focus of the card game John and Scott make up?
 - A. Wizards vs. Witches
 - B. Heroes vs. Villains
 - C. Heroes vs. Monsters
 - D. Monsters vs. Aliens

5. What lesson did John and Scott learn from all this?
 - A. learn to entertain yourself
 - B. summer is boring
 - C. rain is dull
 - D. study hard

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