

Games A Mississippian era engraved shell discovered at Eddyville, Kentucky Choctaw stickball, the oldest field sport in North America, was also known as the "little brother of war" because of its roughness and substitution for war.[22] When disputes arose between Choctaw communities, stickball provided a civil way to settle issues. The stickball games would involve as few as twenty or as many as 300 players. The goal posts could be from a few hundred feet apart to a few miles. Goal posts were sometimes located within each opposing team's village. A Jesuit priest referenced stickball in 1729, and George Catlin painted the subject. The Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians continue to practice the sport. Chunky was a game using a stone-shaped disk that was about 1–2 inches in length.[23]:¶155¶ Players would throw the disk down a 200-foot (61 m) corridor so that it could roll past the players at great speed. As the disk rolled down the corridor, players would throw wooden shafts at it. The object of the game was to strike the disk or prevent your opponents from hitting it.[23]:¶155 Other games included using corn, cane, and moccasins.[24] The corn game used five to seven kernels of corn. One side was blackened and the other side was white. Players earn points based on each color. One point was awarded for the black side and 5–7 points for the white side. There were usually only two players.[24]