

OTHER WAYS TO "CHESS"

A teacher's guide to new
games and activities.

By Ashley Lynn Priore and Queen's Gambit



CHESS IS NOT A ONE-TRICK PONY.
TOO OFTEN, WE THINK OF CHESS
AS "JUST A GAME." HOWEVER, THIS
JUST ISN'T RIGHT. CHESS CAN BE
USED IN A VARIETY OF SETTINGS.

WHY DO YOU LOVE CHESS?

Posted Notes

Pens

Large Paper



This allows us to express why we want to play. Maybe it helps with school work. Maybe it's fun and relaxing.

Each student takes a few posted notes and pen and moves to a quiet spot in the room. For three to five minutes, ask them to write down why they love chess.

Then, in small groups, students should discuss their answers while putting their posted notes on the large sticky paper.

As a class, we pick a common theme about why we love chess.

Think about why you like to play the game. What are the benefits?

LET'S BUILD A CHESS SET

WHAT YOU'LL NEED

These are some supplies, but you're certainly not limited!

- 1.) Colored Paper
- 2.) Glue
- 3.) Scissors
- 4.) Pens/Markers
- 5.) Clay

Ask students to brainstorm ideas before starting. Will their chess set look traditional? Will it be a new take? Make sure they record their process, including what materials they used.

At the end, ask what was challenging and what they learned.



SPEED CHESS

Same as a normal game only one big catch...grab a chess clock with only 5 minutes.

TIMED BOARD SET-UP

How fast can you set up the board?
Can you do it in under five seconds?

Ask students to think about the pressure of timed chess games. Did it make them more prone to mistakes?

LET'S PLAY HUMAN CHESS

CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS!

Ask students what their favorite pieces are. What do they like about these pieces? Can they try to move like a knight or bishop? What about a pawn or queen?

It is harder than it looks!

Ask students to create a chess board with colored pieces of paper on the floor. Are they able to set up in the correct position?



EVERY CHESS PLAYERS DREAM!

Capture Chess: The goal is to get rid of all of your pieces, but there is one important rule! If you can capture one of your opponent's pieces, you have to do it.

BUG HOUSE

TEAMWORK!

You'll need four chess players with two on black and two on white (in other words, each team has a player on white and a player on black). Set up the board as usual and start to play. When your partner captures a piece, you take it and can drop it on any legal square on your board. Be careful! You really need to make sure your opponent doesn't capture those heavy pieces!

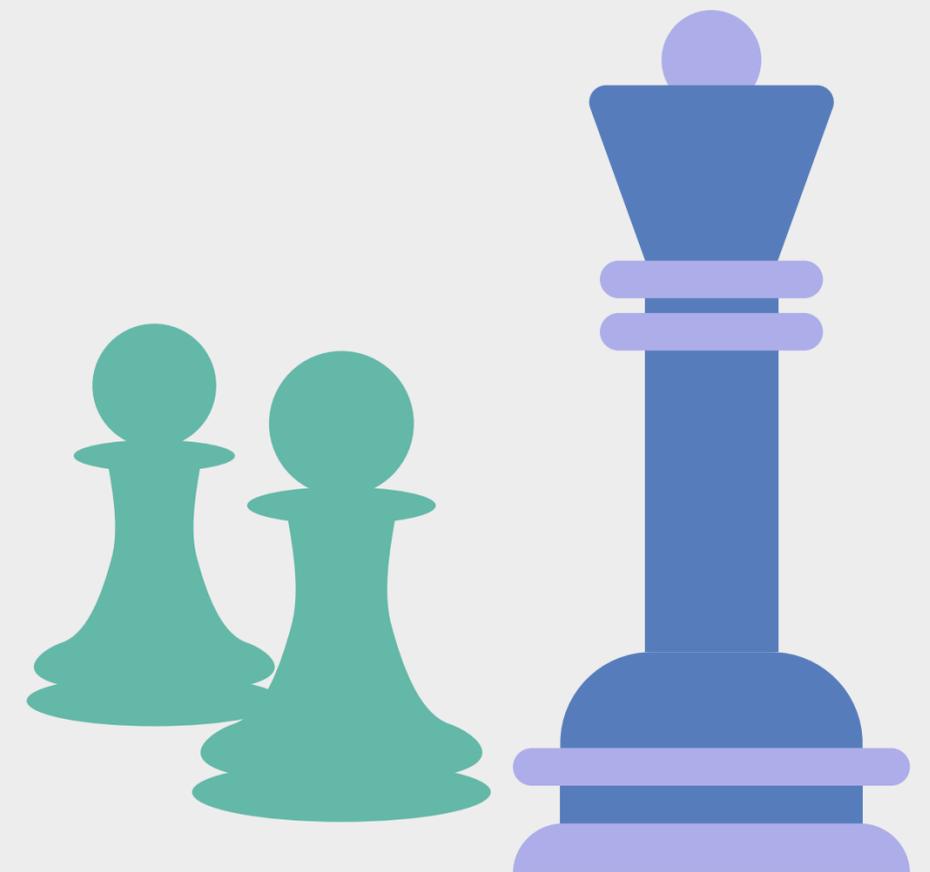


QUEEN AND PAWNS

1 QUEEN VS. 8 PAWNS

**IF A PAWN GETS TO
THE OTHER SIDE, THE
QUEEN LOSES**

This is a good practice game to focus on ensuring your pieces are safe while strategizing about getting your pawn to the other side. It is a very quick game - which is great for students to do in between games or tournament rounds.



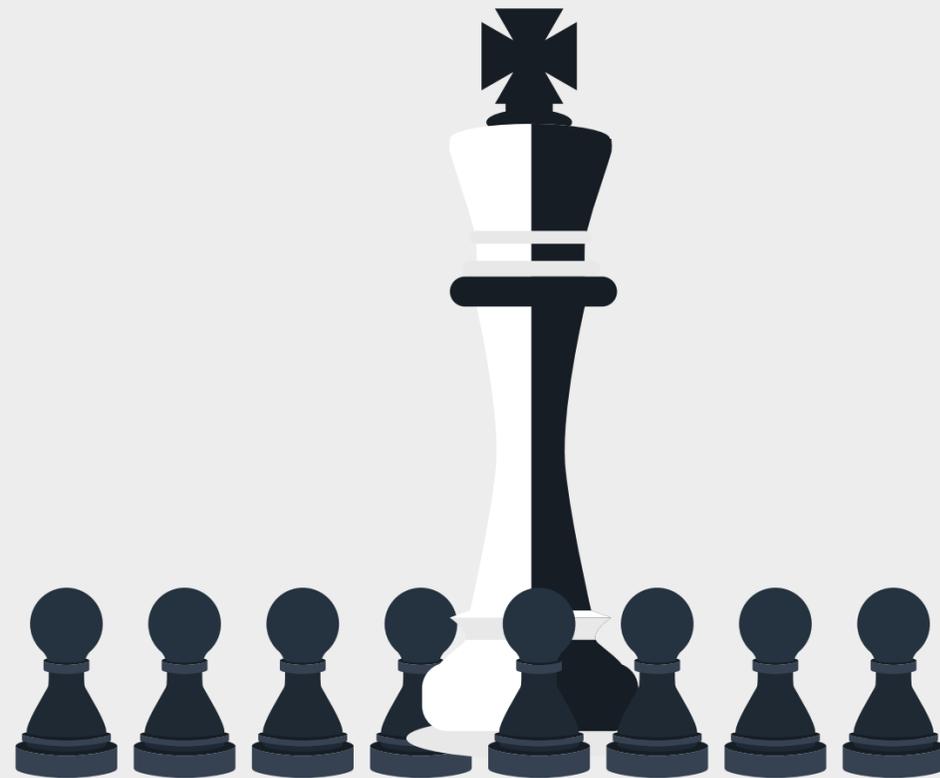
LET'S TRY CRAZYHOUSE!

IT'S THE SAME AS
BUGHOUSE ONLY WITH
2 PLAYERS!

This is a good practice game to get students aware of the point values and what pieces they are giving up. There is nothing worse than losing your queen and having her back in the game on your opponent's side!



This is a fantastic game to practice end-game checkmates and strategies. It forces students to focus on the relationship between pawn structures and king safety.



KING AND PAWNS

**2 KINGS AND
16 PAWNS
BATTLE IT
OUT**

