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TEACHING TUESDAY

GAME: MENKO

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Menko (面子) is a collectible card game that is popular in Japan. An early version using mud or lead disks became popular in the Edo Period. Now made of paper, menko can be played inside or outside, and with one or more players. Menko (面子) uses the characters 面, face, and 子, child, for the small paintings of heroic characters,

How to Play

1. Decide 1st Player

Use rock-paper-scissors to decide which player goes first.

3. Flip the Cards

The first player tries to flip the cards by throwing one of his own cards on top of it.

2. Set the Cards

Every other player puts one menko down on the ground. Uneven surfaces make for better playing!

4. Deciding the Winner

The player with the largest number of menko is the winner.

Variations:

Draw a one meter diameter circle around the cards. Players get to keep any menko knocked out of the circle./ The first player to flip a menko card, keeps all of the cards