

Dakota Wild Plum Stone Dice Game

Game pieces include 7 wild plum stone dice, counting sticks and a bag for holding the dice and sticks. The dice are marked as follows: One side a buffalo head, other side a four directions symbol. Two dice black on one side and plain on other. Two dice black with plain spot on one side, black circle on the other. Two dice with half moon on one side and longitudinal mark with four latitudinal marks on other side. Toss the dice and the scores are as follows:

Two plain, two with black spots, 2 half moons, and one buffalo head=6 points

Two plain black, 2 black with plain circle, 2 half moons and one four directions sign=5 points

Two plain black, 2 black with natural spots, 2 half moons, and one buffalo head=4 points

Two plain, two with black spots, 2 longitudinal lines, and one four directions sign=2 points

Two plain, 2 with black spots, 2 longitudinal lines, one buffalo head=1 point

No other throw counts

SHELL DICE GAME

Shells of many kinds were highly valued by Native people throughout the Americas. Shells, coming from the water symbolize life giving power. Native people made dice out of a wide variety of materials including beaver teeth, walnut shells, wild plum stones, deer antler, corn, beans or clay. The Native people of Coastal California often made dice out of small shells. This shell dice game includes a small hand made pine needle basket. Toss the shell dice out of the basket and the score is calculated in terms of how they land.

If all four land in the convex or concave side, the count is one. If two shells land on the concave side and two on the convex side, the count is two. Three and one do not count. Play continues until a player reaches an agreed upon high score.