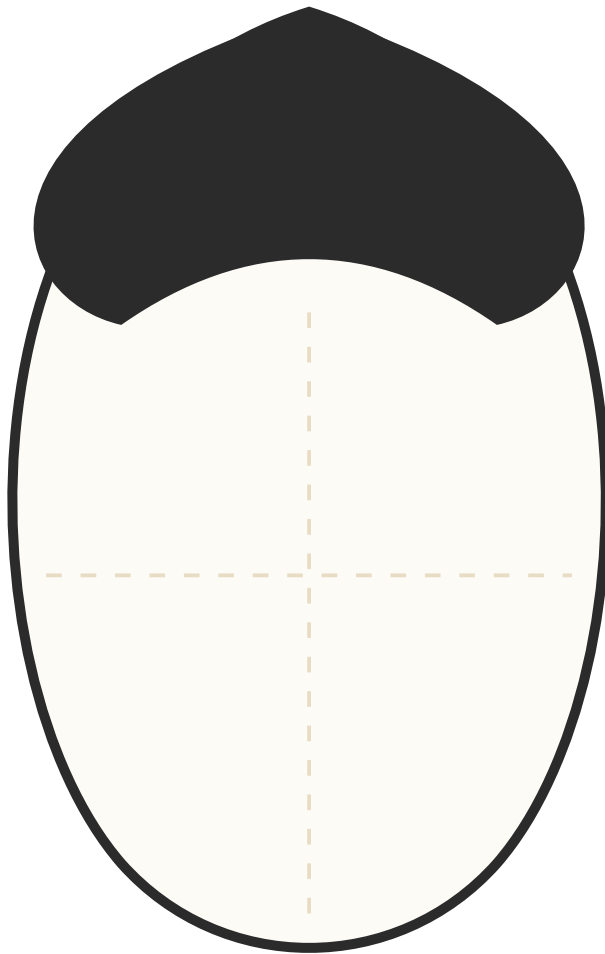


How to play: put on a blindfold, then place the cut-out face parts onto this base sheet. Reveal the face and enjoy the funny result together.



The dashed lines are only a guide for where the parts roughly go.

Cut along the dashed lines. A small loop of tape on the back makes each piece easier to place while blindfolded.

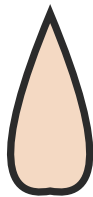
eyebrows ・ mayu



eyes ・ me



nose ・ hana



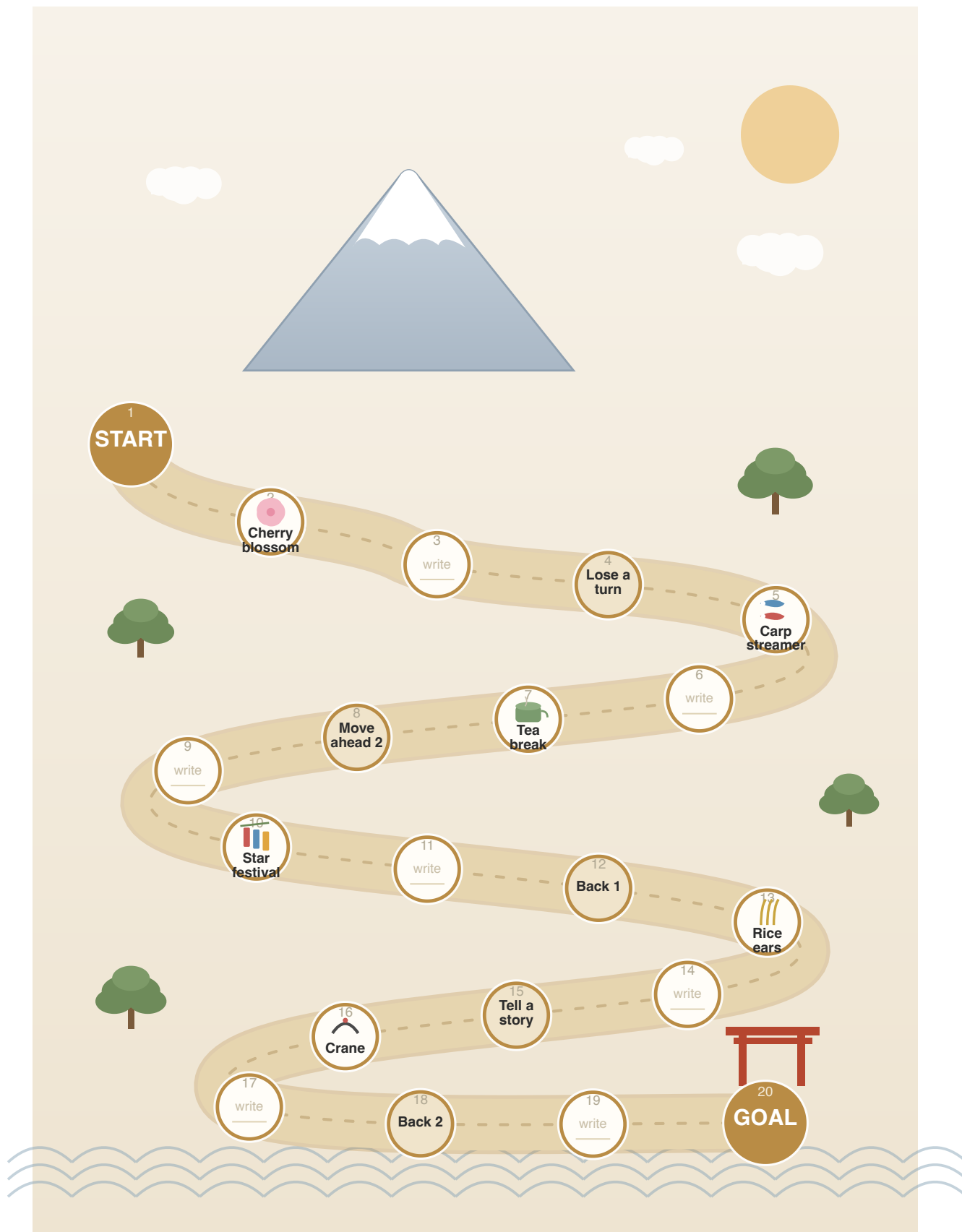
mouth ・ kuchi



cheeks (optional) ・ hoo

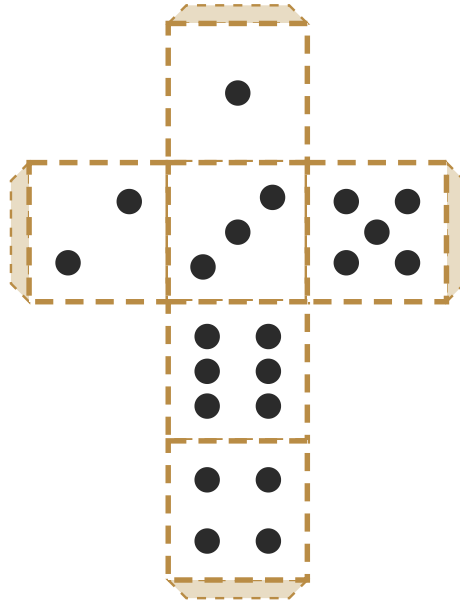


How to play: roll the die and move your piece that many spaces. Follow the winding road through a Japanese landscape from Start to Goal.



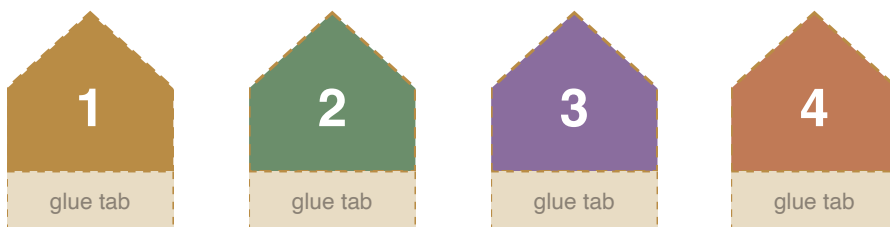
A fold-up paper die and playing pieces. Cut them out and glue the tabs to assemble.

■ Paper die (cut out and fold)



Fold along the dotted lines and glue the shaded tabs to form a cube. Opposite faces add up to 7.

■ Playing pieces (cut out, fold the base, stand up)



You need one loop of string (about 140 cm / 55 in). Make the opening position first, then try one of the classic figures below.

Opening position



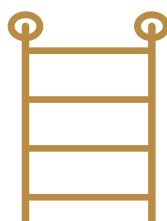
Open both hands with palms facing each other and loop the string around all fingers except the thumbs and little fingers. With the middle finger of each hand, pick up the string lying across the opposite palm. Ayatori is the Japanese name for string figures, a kind of play found in many cultures around the world.

Broom *hōki*



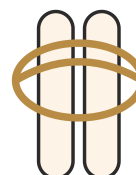
1. Start from the opening position.
2. Slip the loops off your middle fingers and let them hang down.
3. Pinch and lift the top loop; the strands spread into bristles.

Ladder *hashigo*



1. Begin from the opening position.
2. Release the thumb loops and pick up the little-finger strings.
3. Open your hands wide to reveal the rungs.

Ring trick *yubinuki*



1. Stand up both index fingers and lay the string over them once.
2. With your other hand, wind the string around the fingers.
3. Pull the end — the string appears to pass through your fingers.

A note on the names. *Fukuwarai*, *sugoroku* and *ayatori* are shown here in *rōmaji* (romanized Japanese) alongside plain-English names, so learners can connect the sound with the meaning. These games are everyday childhood play in Japan rather than formal ceremony — treat them as a warm, hands-on way in.

Note: these diagrams are simplified drawings made by Kogei Japonica. The exact holds and names vary by region and tradition. If a figure won't hold, loosen the string a little and try again.