

# Castanets

**Categories:** Phenomena

Toys invented by children in the ghetto in the summer of 1943, which they could handle with great skill and speed. The item was composed of two solid sticks, extended at the ends. They are held between the fingers of the right hand and banged against one another. This way, they made a sound like cymbals (metal plates that are used by hitting one against another). In the absence of other musical instruments children used this one to “play.” These sounds were heard everywhere, and the clatter filled courtyards and streets. There were boys who could use these “instruments” with great artistry so that their sound was like the sound of real instruments. In 1943, they disappeared as suddenly as they had appeared.

Oskar Rosenfeld

## Resources

Entsikhlopedia shel geto Lodzh, “Yediot beit lohamei ha-getaot,” April 1955, No. 9-10, p. 33.  
Encyclopedia, p. 110.

## Tags

children folklore language of the ghetto

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