

# Education Strike

By Lori Ann Achzet and Krystle Satrum

Produced around the turn of the 20th century, this nine-pin bowling set from the Jay T. Last Collection of Graphic Arts and Social History was designed as both a fun activity and an educational toy. One can imagine a group of children setting up the pins and rolling the small wooden balls to knock them down. However, the pins could also be used to teach children how to spell. Each of the pins has two or three letters on it so that you can set pins next to each other to spell words.

This set has the inscription “Harry Adams July 10, 1902 Peoria IL” handwritten in pencil on the side of the “H” pin. Young Harry might have used the pins to practice his spelling before writing his name and hometown on the side of the pin, though he would have had to come up with some extra pins to repeat some letters.

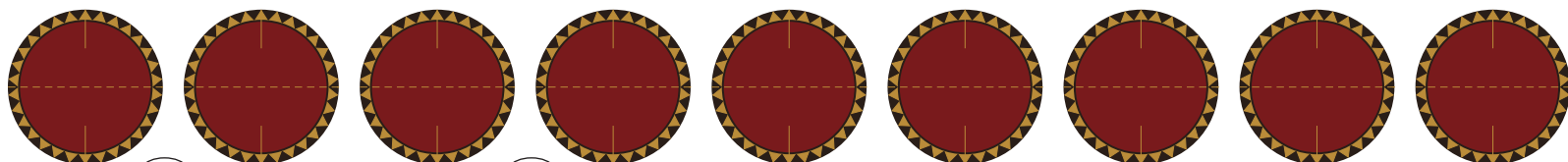
You can create your own set of bowling pins based on this educational children’s game. Cut out the pins and stands below, following the diagrams. Set up the pins and play your own game using a marble or ball.

*Lori Ann Achzet is the senior graphic designer in The Huntington’s Office of Communications and Marketing. Krystle Satrum is the assistant curator of the Jay T. Last Collection.*



final cut

*Nine-Pin and Spelling Blocks, McLoughlin Brothers, New York, ca. 1900. Jay T. Last Collection of Graphic Arts and Social History. The Huntington Library, Art Collections, and Botanical Gardens.*



1. Fold on the dotted lines.  
Cut the solid lines.



2. Insert pin slit  
into stand slit.



3. Arrange pins in the  
“Nine-Pin” formation  
and knock them down  
with a marble or ball.