

ROCK, PAPER, SCISSORS

Ep. 006 -- "Pogo Sticks"

Written by

Kyle Stegina & Josh Lehrman

* * *

First Draft: October 20, 2021
Second Draft: November 02, 2021
Third Draft: November 10, 2021
Third Draft v2: November 11, 2021
Record Draft: November 24, 2021
Conform Draft: June 27, 2022

© 2021 Viacom International Inc., Nickelodeon. All rights reserved. WARNING: These materials are licensed for unadvertised, non broadcast, private use only. All other rights including, without limitation the right to reproduce, distribute or exhibit the materials are retained by Viacom International Inc.. Federal law provides severe civil and criminal penalties for the unauthorized reproduction, distribution or exhibition of copyrighted material. Criminal copyright infringement may be investigated by the FBI and may constitute a felony with a maximum penalty of up to five years in prison and/or a \$250,000 fine. These materials are the property of Nickelodeon, a division of Viacom International, Inc. 1515 Broadway New York, NY 10036, USA

1 INT. ROCK, PAPER, SCISSORS' APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - DAY 1

ROCK, PAPER, and SCISSORS calmly and delicately do a three-person AcroYoga pose as SOOTHING YOGA MUSIC plays.

1 ROCK 1
Paper, keep your legs straight.
Scissors, breathe... and let go.

0A PAPER/SCISSORS 0A
(EXHALES)

After a beat, we hear BOUNCING noises coming from above them.

2 SCISSORS 2
Do you hear that?

3 ROCK 3
Focus on the pose.

4 PAPER 4
I hear it, too. Is it... bouncing?

5 ROCK 5
Focus on the pose...

WHAM! One of THE RAT BROS crashes through our trio's ceiling on something we can't register and quickly bounces back up into the apartment above. Our trio YELLS and topples over.

6 ROCK (CONT'D) 6
What the heck was that?!

ZOOM IN on Paper and Scissors as their eyes narrow.

7 PAPER / SCISSORS 7
The Rat Bros.

2 INT. THE HALLWAY / THE RAT BROS' APARTMENT 2

LOGAN THE RAT BRO (a frat bro rat with short shorts, a backwards hat, and a buff chest) opens his apartment door.

8 LOGAN THE RAT BRO 8
Sup, losers?

9 ROCK / PAPER / SCISSORS 9
Losers? / C'mon! / Man, you're cool.

10 PAPER 10
What is going on in there?

11 LOGAN THE RAT BRO 11
Oh, we're doing pogo tricks, bro.

Logan opens the door more to show three other Rat Bros doing stupid but also awesome tricks on pogo sticks as they LAUGH.

12 LOGAN THE RAT BRO (CONT'D) 12
We're hosting a super cool pogo party this Sunday. You're welcome to come... except-- oh, that's right. You don't have pogo sticks.

The Rat Bros LAUGH and pogo as they say their catchphrase:

13 THE RAT BROS 13
Nice, bro. Nice, bro. Nice, bro.
Nice, bro...

A Rat Bro bounces sideways, using the pogo stick to slam the door in our trio's faces. They stand there, fuming...

3 INT. ROCK, PAPER, SCISSORS' APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM 3

14 PAPER 14
Agh! I hate those Rat Bros! Yet I care so much about what they think of me!

15 SCISSORS 15
I know! They make me so mad, I could just... join their group!

16 PAPER 16
(RE: SCISSORS, HEAD IN HANDS) Ugh.

17 SCISSORS 17
We have to get pogo sticks. If we don't, we won't be cool!

ANGLE ON Rock, kicking and throwing stuff in the apartment.

18 Alt 1 ROCK 18 Alt 1
Ah, Rat Bros! We're never cool! I'm so upset! (STOPS, IMMEDIATELY CALM)
Wait, why does this matter?

19 PAPER 19
Rock, if you're uncool, people don't know you. And if people don't know you, when you die, you get the Uncool Tombstone.

INSERT: a tombstone that just reads "UNCOOL". Several "COOL" tombstones move away from it like it's an unpopular kid. The uncool tombstone SIGHS.

```

20                                SCISSORS                                20
    Or even worse, we could end up like
    my elementary school classmate,
    Georgie Buhl: the Queen of Uncool.
```

4 EXT. STREET - FLASHBACK 4

GEORGIE (9), a girl with Annie hair, holds balloons, looking sad. Reveal she's outside a house with kids playing inside.

21 SCISSORS (V.O.) 21
Some jerk didn't invite Georgie to
a birthday party once. And after
that? She just disappeared.

5 INT. ROCK, PAPER, SCISSORS' APARTMENT - BACK TO SCENE 5

21 Alt 1 SCISSORS 21 Alt 1

No one knooows what happened to
Georgie. (THEN) Y'know, 'cause she
was uncool. We didn't follow up.

23 ROCK 23
But are pogo sticks actually cool,
or do we only think they're cool
because The Rat Bros think they're
cool and they make us feel
insecure?

A beat.

24 PAPER 24
Rock, you're overthinking it. We
need pogo sticks!

25 ROCK 25
No, of course. I'm back on board.
I'M BACK ON BOARD!

Rock YELLS and throws more things around the apartment.

6 INT. TOY STORE 6

MUZAK PLAYS as our trio walks down the aisles.

26 PAPER 26
Okay, the toy store employee said
pogo sticks are in aisle six.

27 ROCK 27
Aisle four...

They look down aisle four. No one's there.

28 ROCK (CONT'D) 28
Aisle five...

They look down aisle five. No one's there.

29 ROCK (CONT'D) 29
Aisle six.

They look down aisle six. It's Black Friday-type chaos where
people physically fight and bite each other for pogo sticks.

30 CROWD 30
AHHH! / Gimme the pogo stick!

31 SCISSORS 31
(TO ROCK AND PAPER) Maybe they have
some in aisle seven?

They peer into aisle seven. No one's there. MUZAK. Then back
at aisle six, which is now an entire Mad Max world. On the
front of a vehicle, one person holds a pogo stick. Another
vehicle catapults someone to grab it. He SCREAMS mid air.

32 SCISSORS (CONT'D) 32
Should we look at aisle five again?

They peer into aisle five. Still no one there. Back to aisle
six, which is now decimated and empty. However:

33 ROCK 33
Ooh, there's still one pogo stick.

But an orb appears and a FUTURISTIC-LOOKING WOMAN emerges.

34 FUTURISTIC-LOOKING WOMAN 34
They're all sold out in my time.

She grabs the pogo stick, returns to the orb, and disappears.

35 SCISSORS 35
Well, great. How are we gonna get
pogo sticks if they're so popular?

Paper looks at his cell phone.

36 PAPER 36
(RE: PHONE) I found one way. But it
might be a little pricey.

7 INT. FANCY AUCTION HOUSE 7
A black-tie event. An AUCTIONEER stands at a podium onstage.

37 AUCTIONEER 37
Our first item up for bid: this
rare 200 karat diamond.
The audience BOOs. ANGLE ON our trio in the crowd in tuxedos.

38 SCISSORS 38
(YELLS) YAWN!

38A AUCTIONEER 38A
(SIGHS) Okay, fine.
The auctioneer throws the diamond in the trash on top of a
pile of other priceless valuables: art, jewelry, etc.

39 AUCTIONEER (CONT'D) 39
How 'bout this vomit-colored pogo
stick?

40 ROCK 40
(RAISES PADDLE) One billion
dollars!

41 PAPER 41
Rock, what're you doing?! (RAISES
PADDLE) Five billion!
Another bidder, a WEALTHY OLD LADY, chimes in:

42 WEALTHY OLD LADY 42
Twelve billion!

43 SCISSORS 43
Twenty billion!

44 WEALTHY OLD LADY 44
Fifty billion!

45 ROCK 45
Well, that's my limit.

46 AUCTIONEER 46
(HITS GAVEL) Sold! For enough money
to buy an island. What is going on?

Someone hands the elderly woman the pogo stick. The Rat Bros bounce up to her and hand her a flyer.

47 LOGAN THE RAT BRO 47
Pogo Party this Sunday. You're on
the list, old lady bro.

The Rat Bros bounce off.

```

48                                THE RAT BROS                                48
                                Nice, bro. Nice, bro. Nice, bro.
                                Nice, bro...

```

The wealthy old lady bounces off on the pogo stick with them.

49 WEALTHY OLD LADY 49
(SNOOTY, HIGH SOCIETY ACCENT) Mmm.
Nice, bro. Nice, bro. Nice, bro.
Nice, bro...

8 INT. ROCK, PAPER, SCISSORS' APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - LATER 8

CLOSE ON Rock, Paper, and Scissors, who sit on the couch.

50 SCISSORS 50

Ugh. We're running out of ways to
get pogo sticks. We tried the toy
store, the auction... I even went
on that game show.

9 INT. GAME SHOW SET - FLASHBACK 9

A HOST talks to Scissors.

```

51                                HOST                                51
    Okay, Scissors, grab as many pogo
    sticks as you can in one minute.
```

Reveal Scissors in a money booth but with pogo sticks. The machine turns on and pogo sticks start violently flying all around the booth, mostly hitting Scissors in the face.

52 SCISSORS 52

Ow! Ah! Ah! Turn it off! THIS IS SO
MUCH HARDER THAN IT LOOKED AT HOME!

10 INT. ROCK, PAPER, SCISSORS' APARTMENT - BACK TO SCENE 10

53 ROCK 53

I still wonder if we're getting too caught up in what other people think is cool. What if we just start our own trend and do something we think is cool?

54 PAPER 54

Rock, we tried that when we made these mood ring pants.

Reveal all three of them are wearing multi-colored pants.

55 SCISSORS 55

Yeah, and they didn't catch on, which made me very upset -- and you can tell from the COLOR OF THE PANTS!

56 PAPER 56

If only there was another way to be cool.

ANGLE ON: a news broadcast on TV. A REPORTER says--

57 REPORTER 57

Welcome to Convenient News, news that's important to you at this very moment. (THEN) Tonight's story: the Controller of Cool.

We see a silhouette of someone, a question mark on her face.

58 REPORTER (CONT'D) 58

...a mysterious woman who literally controls what's cool. Make friends with her, and she'd probably make you cool forever.

Our trio's mood ring pants light up cheerfully.

59 SCISSORS 59

Oh man, we gotta find her!

60 REPORTER 60

Here's her address.

61 ROCK 61

I'm glad we pay for this channel.

62 REPORTER 62
Coming up next: how to control a
creature you created from science.

11 INT. PENCIL'S APARTMENT - SAME TIME 11

PENCIL holds a TV remote next to a FRANKENSTEIN'S MONSTER-looking creature. It ROARS and rampages, breaking things.

PENCIL

I'm glad I pay for this channel.

12 EXT. THE CONTROLLER OF COOL'S PLACE 12

A cool-looking building. A crowd is gathered around the gate, trying to see inside. PAN TO our trio. Then a GUARD walks up.

64 GUARD 64
The Controller of Cool will now
choose a select few to come inside.

The crowd raises their hands, YELLING, "Me! Pick me! (etc.)"

65	ROCK	65
	How are we gonna stand out in this crowd?	

66 PAPER 66
I have an idea. (YELLS) We don't
even care about being cool!

The guard touches his earpiece.

67 GUARD 67
(TO OUR TRIO) She wants you three.

Paper smiles. As they're ushered through the gate...

68 PAPER 68
Pretty smart, huh? 'Cause here's my
secret: I do care about being cool.

13 INT. THE CONTROLLER OF COOL'S PLACE 13

Our trio enters a big room, a facility that's empty except for a console of levers and monitors. A beat.

69 SCISSORS 69
So... do you think she has a
receptionist or--

MUSIC PLAYS and a light show begins as the CONTROLLER OF COOL rises from underground, a platform slowly spinning her until she faces our trio. (She's a super cool, possibly Jamiroquai-looking woman.) Her entrance cue could be like this at 00:38: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VKzWLUQizz8>. The MUSIC STOPS.

70 CONTROLLER OF COOL 70
(CASUAL) Hey.

71 ROCK / PAPER / SCISSORS 71
Wow. / Yes! / That was so cool!

The Controller of Cool goes to sneeze.

72 CONTROLLER OF COOL 72
Ah... Ah...

73 ROCK 73
Ohp.

74 PAPER 74
She's gonna sneeze.

75 SCISSORS 75
This is not gonna be cool.

76 CONTROLLER OF COOL 76
Ah-- Ah-- (LOOKS RIGHT AT THEM) No.

77 ROCK / PAPER / SCISSORS 77
What?! / Come on! / That was even cooler!

78 CONTROLLER OF COOL 78
So how can I help you?

79 SCISSORS 79
Ms. Cool, if I may: we heard you control what's cool. And we were wondering if perhaps you could make us cool.

80 CONTROLLER OF COOL 80
(SMILES) Baby, I could make the sun cool.

81 PAPER 81
(EXPLAINS) Because the sun is hot.

82 ROCK 82
(PATS PAPER'S SHOULDER) Very good.

The CoC walks as she speaks, somehow changing clothes every time she walks behind an object that obscures her body.

83

CONTROLLER OF COOL

83

You see, some days, I manually
input what's cool into my machine.
But other days, when I'm feeling
rakish -- cool word -- I decide
what's cool by pulling levers that
pick trends at random. This sends
out what's cool to the coolest
tastemakers in the world, and
eventually it gets sent to the
least cool people.

Rock's phone PINGS. He checks it.

84 ROCK 84
Guys, pogo sticks are cool!
(IMMEDIATELY REALIZES) Oh.

85	CONTROLLER OF COOL	85
	Let's see what's cool today.	

She pulls a lever. It spins like a slot machine, landing on:

```

86                                COMPUTER VOICE                                86
                                Old-timey bicycles.

```

14 EXT. THE CONTROLLER OF COOL'S PLACE - SAME TIME 14

Everyone now rides old-timey bicycles.

15 INT. THE CONTROLLER OF COOL'S PLACE - BACK TO SCENE 15

87 CONTROLLER OF COOL 87
Unfortunatley, I can't help you.

88 Why not? PAPER 88

89 CONTROLLER OF COOL 89

For the very reason I invited you
in. You see, many years ago, some
jerk didn't invite me to a birthday
party, and it ruined my life.

She turns around, now angry.

90 CONTROLLER OF COOL (CONT'D) 90
Do you remember... Scissors?

90A PAPER (HEAD IN HANDS) Of course. Typical. ROCK 90A

91 CONTROLLER OF COOL 91
Do you remember not inviting
Georgie Buhl, the Queen of Uncool?!

She removes her hat to reveal her Annie hair. MATCH CUT TO:

16 EXT. STREET - FLASHBACK 16

Georgie as a kid. As we were: she stands outside the house.

92 GEORGIE BUHL 92
I'll get revenge on whoever's party
this is.

```
93                SCISSORS (O.S.)                                93
    Hey everyone, it's my party! Me,
    Scissors! I'm the one talking!
```

17 INT. THE CONTROLLER OF COOL'S PLACE - BACK TO SCENE 17

94 SCISSORS 94
 (NERVOUS) Haha, yikes. Uh, sorry,
 Georgie. (EXTENDS HAND) We cool?

95 CONTROLLER OF COOL 95

From that day on, I vowed to never
let anyone make me uncool again.
And the only way to do that... was
to control what's cool. And to
control who's cool.

CoC is lowered out of sight briefly. When she returns, she is now in a villainous get-up.

ROCK

96 Uh oh, she's in a bad guy outfit.

96

97 CONTROLLER OF COOL 97
You three will never be cool. And
I'll make sure you never go to any
cool parties -- like this.

She hits a remote and, on a screen behind her, we see social media footage of The Rat Bros' pogo party. It looks like a blast -- there's COOL MUSIC, someone's on three pogo sticks at once, and one Rat Bro somehow limbos on his pogo stick.

98 THE RAT BROS 98
(BUILDING LIKE "YOU GOT IT") Nice,
bro. Nice, bro. Nice, bro. Nice-
nice-nice-- (HE DOES IT) NICE, BRO!

Everyone there CHEERS. Confetti falls. Then the wealthy old lady from the auction pogos in and blasts an AIRHORN.

BACK ON Rock, Paper, and Scissors, who look heartbroken.

99 SCISSORS 99
 (SIGHS) We're uncool forever.

100 PAPER 100
(HOPEFUL) Maybe no one will notice.

A SALESMAN walks through holding--

101	SALESMAN	101
	Uncool Tombstones... Get your	
	Uncool Tombstones here...	

102	ROCK	102
	(RAISES PADDLE) Five billion	
	dollars!	

103 PAPER 103
(LOWERS PADDLE) Rock, it's not an
auction.

104	CONTROLLER OF COOL	104
	Oh, guards... see them out.	

The guards approach our trio as Scissors gets an idea:

105	SCISSORS	105
	Well if this is our funeral... we	
	deserve a tombstone.	

He grabs an uncool tombstone from the salesman, holds it out, and snaps pictures on his phone as he yells at the guards:

```

106                                SCISSORS (CONT'D)                                106
                                Stay back! Stay back! I'm taking
                                selfies with this uncool tombstone.
                                And if you get near me, I will post
                                it!

```

The guards put up their hands and back away from our trio.

107 Alt 1 GUARD 107 Alt 1
He's crazy, man! He's crazy!

108 PAPER 108
Scissors, what're you doing?

Scissors makes his way to the Controller of Cool's machine.

109 SCISSORS 109

I'm gonna reprogram this machine to
permanently make us cool. And
there's nothing she can do about
it.

The CoC flips her hat in the air and kicks it in a way that defies physics. The hat goes around Scissors and hits him from behind, knocking him over.

110 ROCK 110
That was pretty cool.

Scissors turns to the machine and starts typing.

```

111                SCISSORS                                111
Guys, buy me some time!

```

Paper takes the hat and rolls it toward the Controller of Cool so she trips. She slips...

112		PAPER	112
	Ha HA!		

...but somehow lands in a perfect split and pulls herself up.

113 PAPER (CONT'D) 113
HOW IS SHE SO COOL?!

The Controller of Cool STRUGGLES to pull Scissors away from the console so he stops typing but accidentally pushes his body into a lever, causing the machine to change what's cool:

```

114                                COMPUTER VOICE                                114
Huge turtlenecks.
```

18 EXT. THE CONTROLLER OF COOL'S PLACE - SAME TIME 18

Everyone now wears huge turtlenecks.

19 INT. THE CONTROLLER OF COOL'S PLACE - BACK TO SCENE 19

Paper runs up to the console and PUSHES away the Controller of Cool, accidentally throwing her into a lever.

115 COMPUTER VOICE 115
Magnetic shirts.

20 EXT. THE CONTROLLER OF COOL'S PLACE - SAME TIME 20

Everyone now wears magnetic shirts... and immediately attract various metal objects.

21 INT. THE CONTROLLER OF COOL'S PLACE - BACK TO SCENE 21

Rock accidentally leans against a third lever.

116 ROCK 116

 Oops.

On the monitor, Rock, Paper, and Scissors show up.

117 COMPUTER VOICE 117

 Rock, Paper, Scissors.

118 ROCK / PAPER / SCISSORS 118

 Yeah! / It's us! / We did it!

The Controller of Cool hits another lever.

119 COMPUTER VOICE 119

 Fuzzy canes.

120 ROCK / PAPER / SCISSORS 120

 Aww. / Shoot. / Fuzzy canes are

 cool.

All four of them WRESTLE for control of the console. In the tussle, they keep accidentally hitting levers, making new things cool at faster speeds (which we see outside).

121 COMPUTER VOICE 121

 Neck-high boots.

- Everyone now wears neck-high boots.

122 COMPUTER VOICE (CONT'D) 122

 Double eye patches.

- Everyone now wears double eye patches, extending their arms to see where they're going, knocking into things and falling.

123 COMPUTER VOICE (CONT'D) 123

 Invisibility.

- No one is outside.

124 COMPUTER VOICE (CONT'D) 124

 Being a koala.

- Everyone is a koala.

125 COMPUTER VOICE (CONT'D) 125
 Thinking for yourself.

- Everyone freezes, not knowing what to do.

126 CROWD 126
 Uh...

BACK INSIDE:

127 ROCK 127
 Everybody, stop!

Paper, Scissors, and the Controller of Cool freeze.

128 ROCK (CONT'D) 128
 Look at us, wrestling with a weird
 woman, hitting levers on a machine
 I still have a lot of logistical
 questions about. Guys, we have to
 stop caring about being cool.
 Because the concept of what's cool?
 Is just random. Trends will come
 and go, but if you ask me, the
 coolest thing is to decide what's
 cool for yourself. And wouldn't you
 rather do that than spend your
 whole life chasing the next fad
 like (RE: MONITOR) six-foot phones?

Paper and Scissors soften, considering this...

22 INT. TOY STORE 22

Paper drives a vehicle in the Mad Max aisle, chasing after a
vehicle where someone holds a six-foot phone.

129 PAPER 129
 GIVE US THE PHONE!

Reveal Scissors (also with makeup) on the launch pad.

130 SCISSORS 130
 LAUNCH ME, PAPER. LAUNCH ME!

PAN TO the calm aisle seven, where Rock sees a familiar item:

131 ROCK 131
 Ooh, they have pogo sticks now.

He bounces on it, and jumps sideways in the air, smiling. The
scene FREEZES. Then we pull out to... Convenient News.

133G

SCISSORS

133G

Ah! Ah! Ow! I hate this show! I
HATE THIS SHOW!

END OF EPISODE