

A Renaissance Christmas Game

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Snap-dragon, or flap-dragon as it was called by Shakespeare, was an important part of any English Christmas celebration. The object of the game is to snatch up raisins from a bowl and eat them. Whoever gets the most raisins wins. Sounds pretty simple huh? Well, the catch is that the raisins have been soaked in brandy and **are set ablaze!**

Not only do you have to eat them, but you have to eat them without burning yourself (too badly!) Apparently the secret is to close your mouth as soon as the raisin is in it, thus extinguishing the flame!

"And Drinks of Candles' ends for flap-dragons."
Henry IV., part ii. Act ii. sc. 4

"Thou art easier swallowed than a flap-dragon."
Loves Labour's Lost, Act v. sc. 1