

Monkeyball

How to play this game:

The children stand in a circle with their feet shoulder-width apart. They then need to 'shuffle' a little so that everyone's feet are touching the person next to them. The children then put one hand behind their back and lean forward. A ball is put in the circle and the children, using their 'free' hand, try to knock the ball between the legs of the other children.

The players are able to block the ball with their 'free' hand.

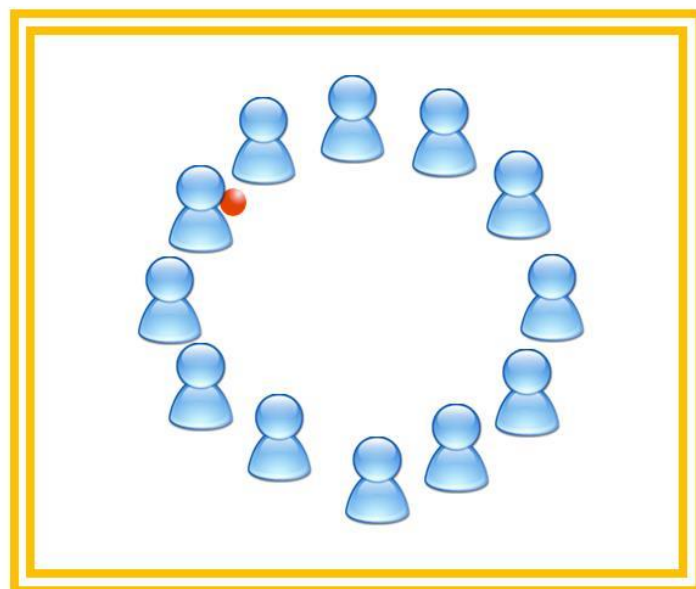
When the ball goes through a child's leg they are out of the game and the circle gets smaller.

Adaptations

Allow the players to start by using 2 hands. If the ball goes through their legs they lose a life and have to stand with one hand behind their back. If they lose another life they must turn around so that they are looking through their legs but using 2 hands again. If they lose a third life they remain standing facing the wrong way but only can use one hand. A fourth life and they are out.

For a harder game try using a tennis ball sized softball. If you are doing this make sure that you are playing on a soft or grass surface and children are more likely to scrape the floor with their hands when using a smaller ball.

If you have a large number of children this game is best if kept to a maximum of 12 in the circle so try running it with 2 smaller circles rather than 1 big one. You could even have the last 4 players in each circle meeting in the 'final'.



Learning Objectives

- Fun cool-down
- Taking turns

Resources

- Activity area
- Large soft ball