

French Cricket

How to play this game:

The children form a large circle. Select one child who stands in the centre of the circle holding the bat. This child must stand with his/her feet slightly apart and they are not allowed to move their feet during the game. The other children bowl the ball underarm at the child in the centre who tries to hit the ball with the bat. The child in the centre is 'out' when they hit the ball and a 'fielder' catches it or when the ball hits them on or below either knee. Select a new 'batsman' and begin again. You may want to introduce the rule that the fielders have to be at least one to two metres away from the batsman.

Adaptations

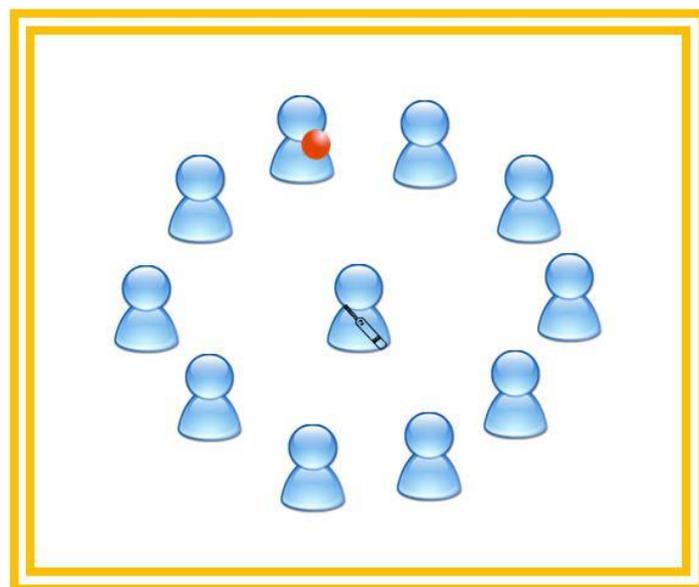
This can easily be adapted for rounders or softball by using a different bat.

Introduce a scoring system whereby the batter gets points for hitting the ball; hitting the ball so that it bounces on the floor before getting to any of the fielders; hitting the ball outside of the circle. You can also take off points for every time they get out. Give them six balls to face, this gets children used to the idea of overs in cricket.

Extend the adaptation above by giving the fielders points to add to their batting points for either hitting the player below the knees or by taking a catch.

Introduce the concept of being able to hit the ball outside of the circle and the batter can choose to take a run which involves running to the place where the fielder who has gone to retrieve the ball and returning to the middle. This is a great way to introduce running between the wickets before playing more advanced cricket games.

Make the game faster by making the circle smaller or if you have more able children make the circle larger.



Learning Objectives

- Taking turns
- Batting, fielding cricket skills.
- Can be used as a fun cool-down or warm-up

Resources

- Activity area
- Cricket bat
- Windball or tennis ball.