Name/Title: Mean Hoops

Academic content: Mathematics

Purpose of Event: To practice shooting an overhand (basketball) throw while learning to calculate the average (mean) of their successful shots.

Prerequisites: Cues to successfully shoot a basketball. Classroom instruction on how to calculate mean, median and mode.

Suggested Grade Level: 3-5

Materials Needed: basketballs, basketball goals, paper, pencils, calculators (optional), poly-spots/chalk/tape (to mark spots to shoot from)

Physical activity: Shooting a Basketball

Description of Idea

1. Students will get into groups of 3-4 and select a basketball goal and a basketball.
2. There will be different areas marked (approximately 5 positions) off by the teacher for students to shoot from and each student will take 10 turns at each position. Record how many baskets you make at each position.
3. After everyone in the group has had their turn at each position, students will calculate their individual mean, median and mode for each position.
4. Then students will combine all of their data and calculate a group mean, median and mode for each position.

Variations:

Groups could have a stopwatch and calculate how many baskets they make within different times, such as 1 minute or 2 minute intervals.

The teacher could play upbeat music to begin shooting, with the students counting how many baskets they make until the music stops. Then they calculate their mean, median and mode.

Assessment Ideas:

Check over students work to make sure they are accurately calculating the mean, median and mode.

Give tips on proper shooting technique.

Adaptations for Students with Disabilities:

Students with disabilities could have modifications such as a lower goal or a lighter ball.

Submitted by **Ruth Ann McDaniel** in Central, SC. Thanks for contributing to PE Central! **Posted on PEC: 2/17/2011**.

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