

## **Name/Title:** Cone Baseball

**Purpose of Event:** To have students practice their batting skills.

### **Activity cues:**

- **Grades 1-2:** "favorite hand on top"; "side to target"; "stretch arms" (to see how far away from tee one should stand)
- **Grades 3-5:** "level swing"; "hit ball where partners aren't"; "fielders work together to get the batter out"

**Suggested Grade Level:** K-2

**Materials Needed:** One cone, batting tee, (plastic oversized) bat, and whiffle ball for each pair or trio of students. May want to have different size balls for students to hit as well.

### Description of Idea

Have grades 1-2 in pairs and grade 3 in trios. Introduce one or two of the above mentioned cues for batting which students will be working on this day.

A cone is set up approximately 15-25 feet away from the batting tee; the **fielder** stands in the field behind this cone. The batter scores **runs** by running continuously between the cone and the tee after he/she hits the ball. One run is scored each time the batter touches the cone or tee.

The batter is **out** (has to stop running and scoring runs) when the fielder retrieves the ball and runs back to the cone that is 15-25' away from the batting tee, touches it with the ball, and says **out**. The batter switches to become the fielder after **2 at bats**.

As students bat, observe to see if they are using the cues introduced and help as needed. Use our [Teachers Cue Checklist Sheet](#) to note informatio about each student's performance.

### **Teaching Suggestions:**

- Don't tell grade 3-5 students about the strategies used to get the batter out at the beginning of the lesson. Let them begin playing and then bring them together to discuss this.
- For the 3rd-5th graders pinpoint groups of students who you see using good strategies. For example, if one fielder stays at the cone and the other fielder throws it to him/her, instead of both fielders running to get the ball.
- For grades 1 & 2, you may need to bring them in to discuss what happens when the runner and the fielder get to the cone at the same time. As this is a fast moving

game--students really get a workout--taking this break is usually appreciated.

### **Safety Tips**

- Don't let kids swing a bat near other people in the area. May want to have a rope around the hitting area that designates you can't enter this area while someone is batting.

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Submitted by **Christine Hopple** who teaches at Ithaca College in Ithaca, NY. Thanks for contributing to PE Central! **Posted on PEC: 5/30/2001.**

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