Name/Title: Zesty Kicken' Chicken Dance

Purpose of Event: To practice/assess spatial awareness concepts, such as personal and general space and, also, levels.

Prerequisites: Knowledge of The Chicken Dance moves.

Suggested Grade Level: K-2

Materials Needed: One hula hoop per student; The Chicken Dance song from the Jimmy Neutron soundtrack CD.

Description of Idea

Spread the hoops out on the floor before the students enter. Each student gets one hula hoop to stand in and is reminded to keep the hoop in his/her own self space - so there is plenty of room for movement around the hoops.

Have the students perform The Chicken Dance (clucking, wings, shake feathers) to the music. (I like to start with The Chicken Dance song from Drew's Famous Party Mix.) During the chorus, the students will perform a locomotor skill (run, hop, gallop, skip, etc.) around the hoop instead of connecting elbows, and, thereafter moving with a partner. When the arm movement section starts the students hop back into his/her hoop and perform The Chicken Dance again.

Variations:

Instruct the students to move around all hoops, varying the locomotor skills. When it is time to perform the arm motions, students will go to any nearby vacant hoop.

Instruct students to perform locomotor skills at different levels. (This would be the perfect opportunity to watch each student for spatial awareness.)

Teaching Suggestions:

I like to use this activity at the end of any activity using hula-hoops.

Submitted by **Michael Iradi** who teaches at Marshall in South Orange, NJ. Thanks for contributing to PE Central! **Posted on PEC: 12/29/2002**.

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