

Name/Title: Football Mania

Purpose of Event: For students to practice previously-learned throwing and catching skills and offensive/defensive strategies in a game-like situation.

Prerequisites: Skill work in throwing to a moving partner and moving to catch an object; practice in using offensive and defensive strategies.

Suggested Grade Level: 3-5

Materials Needed: Large grassy field; ten to fifteen different size and textured balls such as junior footballs, nerf footballs and other balls; two large hula hoops; one flag belt for each student (two different colors); dusting chalk or small cones to mark the boundaries of the field/zones.

Description of Idea

Before class, mark the playing field (as large a space as possible) into four equal zones. The endlines are the goal lines.

Then, divide the class into **four groups** of equal skill. Put each group in a zone. Then have players in each zone divide themselves into two teams; each team then wears flagbelts of one specific color.

Place all the footballs in one large hula hoop behind one goal line. The game starts by one person (the "**quarterback**") passing the ball to a teammate in the **first zone**. If the ball is caught, that player then passes the ball to a teammate in the **second zone**. As soon as the ball is passed to the second zone, the quarterback passes another ball to her/his teammate in the first zone. This continues until all balls in the hoop are gone.

Whenever a ball is caught by a teammate in a zone, it continues to the **next zone** until it reaches the **fourth zone**. As this is the last zone, the player that catches the ball runs **past the endline** for a touchdown.

If a person's flag is pulled before the ball is passed or they move over the endline, or, if the ball is intercepted by the opposing team or dropped, the ball is then placed on one side line in the zone where it was dropped or intercepted. After all successfully caught balls reach the goal line and all other balls are on the side line, the opposing team gets a turn to be on offense.

Both teams gather all footballs and then place in the hoop at the other end line. Then the opposite team starts play trying to score touchdowns in the same manner by passing the ball through each zone to their end zone trying to score.

At the end of each round tally score and start the second round. A few minutes before the period is over end the game. Players shake hands and the final score of course would be "FUN to

FUN", leaving the game on the field.

Variations:

This type of zone play can be used for soccer skills and basketball skills lead up games after learning the skills.

Depending upon the number of players, you can have two "quarterbacks" passing balls from two different hoops behind each endline.

Assessment Ideas:

By teacher observation during the game. Using a cue checklist sheet, mark a tally for each student by using a four point scoring rubric, according to their ability to throw, catch, and use offensive/defensive strategies:

4 = The student received, passed or intercepted at least one or more balls. Demonstrated consistent use of offensive and defensive strategies in the game.

3 = The student caught, passed, or intercepted at least one ball. Demonstrated some use of offensive and defensive strategies in the game.

2 = The student touched at least one ball or pulled opposite team's flag and was active in the game. May have had difficulty in using offensive and/or defensive strategies.

1 = Student did not move to the ball or make an attempt to catch or pull flags during the game. Active participation was very limited. Demonstrated little to no use of offensive and defensive strategies in the game.

Adaptations for Students with Disabilities:

Children in wheelchairs could be the quarterback and throw the balls into the first zone. Also game could be adapted for wheelchair students by using hoops and other players stay inside hoops to pass and catch footballs in each zone.

Submitted by **Sally Huston** who teaches at Killearn Lakes Elementary School in Tallahassee, FL. Thanks for contributing to PE Central! **Posted on PEC: 3/16/2001.**

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