

Name/Title: Stealing from the Leprechauns

Purpose of Event: The purpose of this activity is to work on chasing, fleeing and dodging.

Prerequisites: Students should have the ability to dodge and change directions in order to avoid colliding with others.

Suggested Grade Level: 3-5

Materials Needed: five hula-hoops, a collection of bean bags (around 30+), three green pinnies or hats, CD player and Irish music

Description of Idea

Set-up: Place one hula-hoop filled with all of the bean bags in the middle of the gym. This hoop will be designated as the "Pot-o-Gold." Place the remaining four hoops in each corner of the gym. These hoops will be the collection spots for the bean bags after they are picked up from the center hoop/"Pot-o-Gold."

Directions: Pick three students to be the "Leprechauns" or taggers and have them wear pinnies or green hats. Divide the students into four different groups, with one group per hoop. Each group will try to steal as much "gold" from the "Pot-o-Gold" as possible. The students should take only one bean bag at a time. If a student is tagged, (s)he must bring the bean bag back to the "Pot-o-Gold" and return to her/his hula-hoop and start over. Students will begin running when the music starts and stop when the music pauses. Play for one-two minutes, then stop to change "Leprechauns."

Variations:

Rather than assign a specific hoop to each group, have the students try to get a bean bag to each hoop. This will be more challenging, increasing the patterns of movement needed and also increasing the risk of being tagged.

Assessment Ideas:

Using a checklist for chasing, fleeing and dodging, check for proficiency of these skills.

Adaptations for Students with Disabilities:

Move the hula-hoops in closer. Also, if it is too hard with three taggers, take one away.

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