

Name/Title: Lincoln Avenue Basketball

Purpose of Event: To gain practice in incorporating the various skills and strategies associated with basketball. This activity can also be used to introduce different offensive and defensive strategies to students (e.g., offensive skills such as keeping one's body between the ball and the opponent; defensive strategies such as moving between the ball and the intended target and using one's body and arms to guard the opponent).

Prerequisites: The ability to move and dribble a ball with control while keeping it away from an opponent; to pass a ball using various types of passes; to shoot toward an intended target.

Suggested Grade Level: 6-12

Materials Needed: 1 basketball; 2 basketball hoops; colored floor tape; pinnies for one group

Description of Idea

Using floor tape, divide the gym into two equal lanes lengthwise. Then, divide the gym into quarters width-wise. This will give you eight **rectangles**.

Before play begins, introduce or review one particular skill or offensive or defensive **strategy** with students which will help them to play this game more successfully. Let students know you want them to be trying to use this skill or strategy whenever possible.

Then, divide the class into two groups (e.g., the "blues" and "reds"). Have one group wear the pinnies. Then place one student from each group in each rectangle. The remaining students are placed anywhere around the **base/sidelines**. Designate a basket that each team will shoot toward.

Once play begins, the students in the rectangles may **dribble, shoot** or **pass** the ball to other players in the rectangles or side/baselines, in order to move the ball to their side of the court and shoot a basket. When a player doesn't have the ball, he/she plays defense against their opponent in the rectangle. Students in a rectangles may not leave this space, or it is called a **turnover** and the other person in their rectangle receives the ball.

The students on the side/base lines may receive a pass from a teammate in a rectangles or on the side/baselines and may also shoot at the basket. However, they may take only **three dribbles** and then must pass or shoot. Also, no player in a rectangle or side/baseline may guard a student that is in possession of the ball on the side/baseline. Students are free to roam anywhere on the side/baselines, but may not enter a rectangle or again, it is a turnover.

After a few minutes **rotate** the students in the rectangles clockwise. One pair will now come out of the rectangle and to the side/baseline, and one pair of students will replace them from the side/baselines. If necessary, review an offensive or defensive strategy or skill which you observe students need to focus on. Begin play again. Continue to rotate students every few

minutes so that all students have a chance to play in each rectangle.

Variations:

You may decide to make teams ahead of time, pairing students with like abilities in each rectangle. This gives each student a chance to be successful against students of his/her own ability.

If students are of similar physical abilities, you can have one team rotate clockwise and the other team rotate counter-clockwise. This will give different pairings each time a rotation is made.

If your facility has one large court, make more rectangles on the floor to involve more students on the court itself. Instead of six rectangles, try eight or ten.

It is not suggested that you add more students in a box, above the original two. This creates a lot of congestion and can be dangerous.

Submitted by **Greg Russo** who teaches at Lincoln Elementary School in Pearl River, NY. Thanks for contributing to PE Central! **Posted on PEC: 9/22/2001.**

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