**Using Innovative Equipment to Learn**

**Striking/Fielding Games**

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Description: Using the Teaching Games for Understanding model, come and engage in innovative games that build skills and concepts of Striking/Fielding games. Come prepared to actively participate.

**Skills and Concepts**

A complete list of skills and concepts is below. Assessment of most of these skills could be completed with most of these games:

1. Stability: balance, bend, land, roll, stretch, transfer weight, turn, and twist
2. Locomotion: dodge, chase, hop, jump, run, skip, and walk
3. Manipulation: catch, dribble, forearm pass, kick, overhead pass, set, strike, throw, trap, and volley
4. Body Awareness: effort, relationships, spatial awareness, motion, and force

These specific learnings are further addressed in: <http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/curriculum/elementary/healthcurr18.pdf> pp. 23-29.

**Strategies and Tactics**

These connect all striking and fielding games. These are transferable ideas that form the backbone of players’ understandings of the purpose and goal of net and wall games. These include:

1. Determine force and trajectory required to toss or hit an object over a net or against a wall.
2. Look for open spaces on offence and reduce open spaces on defense.
3. Put the object where the opponent is not likely to be on offence (using positioning and deception), and be in a position to cover as much of the space as possible on defense (using positioning and deception).
4. Communicate well when playing with teammates.

**Equipment Adjustments**

Often a smaller ball is more difficult than a larger one, but sometimes the opposite is true. The faster the ball moves, the more difficult the game becomes.

**Adjust Learning Environment**

1. If the game has an elimination component, keep everyone involved by having several games so that eliminated players join another court.
2. At times you might also want to designate courts as “just for fun” and as “competitive” and then allow players to choose the level of competition that is best for them.

**Questions for Understanding**

1. Effective questions help to guide your players’ learning and encourage them to communicate their key learnings from the game.
2. As players work through these questions, they develop understandings that help them as they engage in other net wall games.

From CIRA Ontario’s *Bats and Balls* ( [https://www.ciraontario.com/striking](https://www.ciraontario.com/striking%20) )

* Warm up
  + Jog through space
    - Aware of each other’s space
    - Follow someone from about five (5) paces
      * High knees
      * Lunges

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| --- | --- | --- |
| Diamond Dash  Caterpillar Big Hitter  Bases Loaded | Cricket Kickball  Cricket Foam Ball  American Ping Pong | Ramped up  Ramped up With Defense  1800s Baseball |

(5 minutes per game)

For a great book on striking/fielding games go to: [https://www.ciraontario.com/striking](https://www.ciraontario.com/striking%20)

For more striking/fielding games go to:

* <https://www.canadago4sport.com/strike-index>
* <https://www.canadago4sport.com/train4strike>
* Caterpillar Big Hitter
  + <https://www.gophersport.com/sports/baseball/big-hitter-game-pack>
* Diamond Dash
  + <https://www.canadago4sport.com/strike/Diamond-Dash>
* Bases Loaded
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* Cricket Kickball
  + <https://www.canadago4sport.com/strike/Cricket-Kickball>
* Cricket Foam Ball
  + <https://www.canadago4sport.com/strike/Cricket-Foamball>
* American Ping Pong
  + <https://www.canadago4sport.com/strike/American-Ping-Pong>

* Ramped Up
  + <https://www.canadago4sport.com/strike/RampedUp-Catch-Own>
* Ramped Up With Defense
  + <https://www.canadago4sport.com/strike/Ramped-Up-With-Defense>
* 1800s Baseball
  + <https://www.canadago4sport.com/strike/1800s-baseball>

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