

Crossing the Swamp



Objective

A competitive and cooperative physical activity which requires children to use problem-solving skills.



Equipment

- Hoops
- Cones



Preparation

- Split the children equally into appropriate groups, taking into consideration ability and space available.
- Provide each group with three hula hoops (rafts) and explain that the aim of the activity is to navigate across the swamp (area) to their corresponding coloured cone at the other end of the activity area.
- Explain that the area behind the coloured cones is safe dry land and anywhere between the cones is muddy swamp.



Instructions

- Provide the participating children with some rules of the game:
 - The hula hoops must be laid down first before the team can step on to the swamp.
 - Only two people can be in one hula hoop at a time
 - The hula hoops cannot be thrown, slid, or rolled across the hall.
 - No body parts are allowed to make contact with the floor outside the hula hoops - if this happens, the whole team must go back to their starting position.
- The participating teams must work cooperatively to work out the most effective / efficient way to cross the swamp.
- Ideally, the team would take four group members across in two hula hoops, utilising the third hoop to pass from front to back to keep the momentum going.
- Once the four group members have made it successfully across, they must send one person back with the hoops to bring the reminder of the group across.



Other information

- Add or remove the hula hoops, depending on the ability and age of the children.
- Add obstacles that the groups must navigate around.
- Perform the activity in silence to develop different communication methods / techniques.

