

SPORTS ABILITY

Tee Ball

Chain Gang

A cooperative team game that develops the skills of Tee Ball.

Learning Intention

To practice striking, catching and throwing skills whilst working as a team to prevent the opposition from scoring.



Skill Focus

Catching, fielding, shot placement, striking, throwing.



What you need

- Suitable indoor or outdoor space
- Tee-ball bat and ball or alternatives (see Equipment)
- Batting tee
- **Base markers**– these should be flat strips or discs. Use cricket wickets if playing cricket version.



What to do

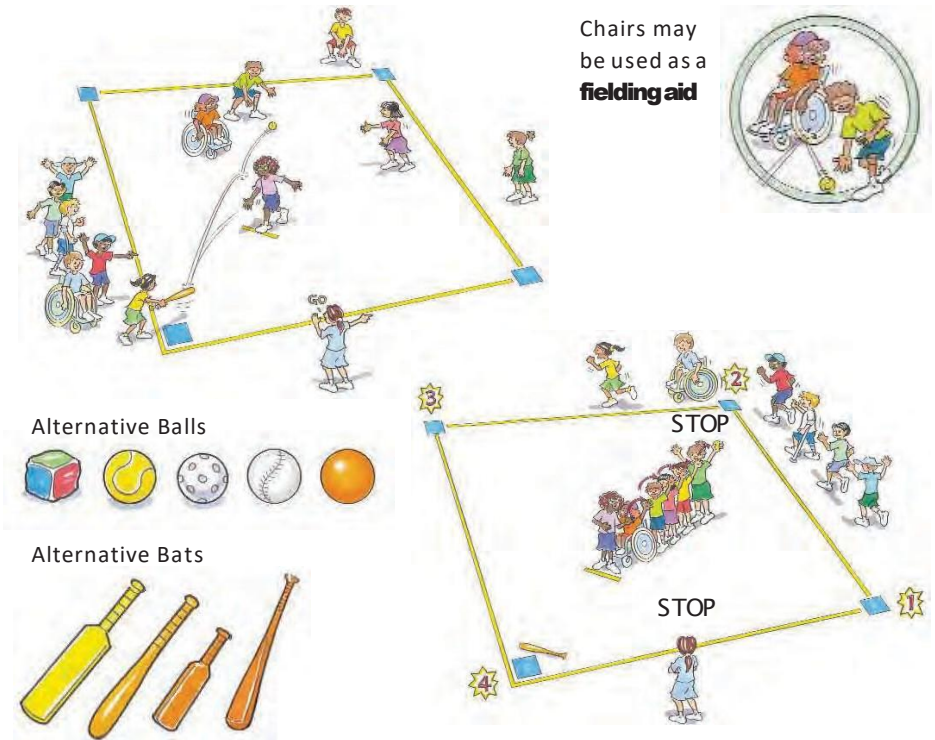
- Divide players into two equal teams.

Batting team

- Batter takes position on home base (or wicket for cricket version – see Rules).
- **Remaining batters line up in single file** near the batter (at a safe distance).
- **Batter hits off a tee or pitched ball.**
All batters then attempt to run as a group around the bases.
- Allow one 'good' hit for each batter, i.e. **hit between the angle of home, first and third base.**

Fielding team

- **Fielder who fields the ball moves to the pitcher position (or a marker disc).** All **other fielders line up behind the player** with the ball.
- Fielders pass the ball over their heads **until it reaches the last fielder who holds the ball in the air and shouts 'stop!'**
- Umpire checks the position of the batting team when 'stop!' is called. One run is scored for each base passed by the last player in the line.





TREE

Teaching Style · Rules · Equipment · Environment

Use the TREE model to modify the game. Below are some suggestions or try your own!

Teaching style

- Encourage batters to vary the types of hits they use e.g. short hits, long hits and bunts.
- Use player role models to **emphasise an effective side-on batting stance, good ball placement and effective fielding.**

Rules

- Cricket version: when the batter strikes the ball, the team run in a relay format to a nearby wicket, **set away from the fielding team.** Score is calculated using the same method as the tee-ball version.
- Vary the course to be covered by the batting team, or the task **to be completed by the fielding team.**

Equipment

- Include a variety of bats e.g. **different sized tee-ball bats, plastic bats, paddle bats.**
- Use larger, slower balls to reduce speed of the game or smaller, **faster balls to speed it up.**

Environment

- Increase or reduce the distance to be covered by the batting team.
- **Vary the positions of the fielding team. Have more or less fielders inside the bases.**

Safety

- Bats must be dropped and not thrown.
- Umpire to remove tee after batter has hit the ball.
- **Batting team should run outside the bases and fielders line up inside the bases.**
- Waiting batters remain in 'safety zone' to the rear of the batter.

Ask the players

Batters

- What will you think about when preparing to hit your shot?
- Where will you aim to place the ball?

Fielders

- **How can fielders work together to return the ball to the infield as quickly as possible?**
- What will you do to ensure the ball gets passed quickly along the line?