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Continuing Features: How We Teach It

Hallway Games

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Hallway Games

We've developed two games for grades 1-6 that can be played in long, narrow places bordered by classrooms. The games meet the criteria of total class participation, controlled noise, and high levels of activity and fun. There are no problems in stopping play for hallway traffic and resuming when the hall is clear.

To accommodate classes of 24 to 32 students, we've used floor tape to mark off a hallway into eight segments, each about 8' long. The lines are placed so that no line is located at a classroom doorway.

Hand Soccer

This is a good game for all ages and levels for developing eye-hand coordination, concentration, teamwork, and low level strategy.

Equipment: Four tennis balls for a class of 24-32 students.

Teams: Eight teams of 3-4 players.

Positions: Each game is played in one of the marked off areas, with a marked off area between games as a buffer zone. Players of one team sit or kneel behind a line, facing their opponents, who sit or kneel behind the next line.

Object: To score a goal by hitting the ball across the opponent's line and past the opposing player.

Play: Players must sit or kneel and may use only stiff open hands to propel the ball. Start play by placing the ball on the floor and hitting it toward the opposing line. Balls may not be thrown or rolled and aerial balls are illegal. However, if the defense causes the ball to go up and over the defensive team, that is a goal for the offense. After a goal, the team scored against restarts the action.

If a ball stops in the center of the area, any player who can reach it may put it into play. If a ball from another game crosses beyond

the buffer zone and into the playing area, play should be stopped. After a set time, rotate teams and start new games. When kneeling becomes uncomfortable, switch to a cross-legged position.

Hallway Hockey

Equipment: One plastic indoor hockey stick for each player and two fleece balls or nerf balls. We use red sticks for one team and yellow for the other.

Positions: Red groups stand in spaces 1, 3, 5, and 7; Yellow groups play the other spaces. The Red group in space 1 and the Yellow group in space 8 are the goalies.

Object: To pass the ball across the opponent's end line to score a goal. (In our set-up, Red always passes to the teacher's right and Yellow to the left. Reds in space 1 try to prevent goals and to pass the ball to space 3; space 3 players try to pass to space 5 so that they can pass to space 7 for a scoring attempt. Yellows pass from 8 to 6 to 4 to 2 to score on Red 1).

Play: The ball is put in play by a face-off, as in hockey. The ball may be passed on the floor or in the air; walls and ceiling are playable areas. Players must keep their feet within their assigned spaces, but sticks should cross over lines into adjoining spaces to pass or steal the ball. The ball must be played with the stick, not the foot. After a goal is scored, one of the goalies puts the ball back in play by a hit from within his own area.

The ball moves quickly from one area to the next, but in a long hallway a second ball is a good idea. After ball 1 is played toward one end, toss ball 2 to the opposite end. This keeps all players active and alert and creates interesting situations when both balls are in one space at the same time. Any time the balls remain at one end for too long, stop the game and send one ball to the other end.

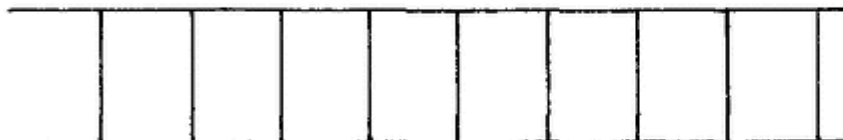
Take care that the sticks stay under control. In a closely confined area, wild swinging of sticks could be hazardous. No stick should go above the waist.

Rotate groups from one area to another to allow them all to play as goalies and as offensive players. To avoid confusion, rotate by teams, one at a time—Yellow moves 8 to 6 to 4 to 2 to 8, then Red moves 1 to 3 to 5 to 7 to 1. After each rotation, remind the players that Red goes to the right and Yellow to the left of the teacher.

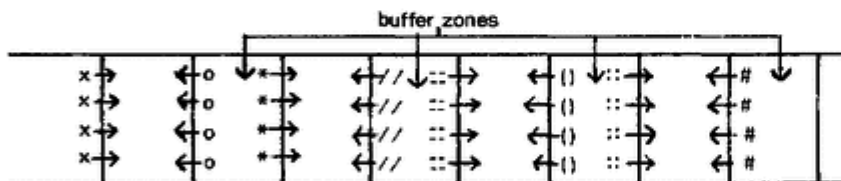
Students will learn through playing how best to cover their area. You might suggest that goalies not play at the goal line but cover the space fully.

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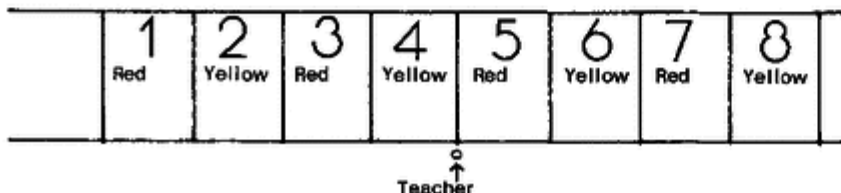
With floor tape, mark off segments of hallway, each about 8 feet long.



For hand soccer, eight teams of three or four players face across the segments.



Two teams of hallway hockey players—Reds and Yellows—are divided into groups of three or four, with Red groups and Yellow groups assigned to alternate segments.





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