

Curriculum area	Topic	Year	Session Number	Skill
Strike & Field Games	Cricket	3/4	#5	Batting Session

Equipment

- Cricket/tennis balls
- Cricket bats
- Cones for set up
- Cricket stumps
- Bibs

Learning Objective

- To develop a correct batting stance and grip.
- To strike a ball with control.

Success Criteria

- I can hold the bat with the correct grip.
- I can stand side-on in a balanced stance.
- I can hit the ball into space.

Key words

- Batting
- Grip
- Drive shot

Preparation Ideas/Warm Up

Tunnel Tag

Select 3-4 children to be taggers. Their job is to tag as many people as possible. If you are tagged, stand with legs apart to create a tunnel. Select 4-5 children to be given a ball. To get back into the game, those who have been tagged stand with their legs apart.

The person with the ball will roll the ball through their legs and collect the ball from the other side. Ask the children how they should roll the ball. How much power should we put into the roll?

Skill Development

Cone drive

Get the children into pairs. Give them one ball, one bat and one cone between them. Get the batter to place the ball on top of the cone and practice using the drive shot. Their partner should be stood around 5m in front to collect the ball.

It is important that the children use the correct technique as they strike the ball and try to keep the ball low to the ground as they strike it. Ask why it is important to keep the ball low? (to stop the fielders from catching the ball). Swap after 5 turns each

Partner drive

Again, the children to be in pairs with a ball and a bat for the group. They should be standing around 5-6m apart. Ask the bowler to bowl the ball underarm towards their partner.

The batter should then use the drive shot to strike the ball back to their partner. We are looking for the batter to try to keep their strike low to the ground using good technique. Swap roles after 6 turns

Progression:

>Get the bowler to stand 7-8m away and use the bowling technique to bowl to their partner.

Game

Run Batter Run

Get the class into groups of 5. They will be given 1 ball, 1 bat, one set of wickets and 2 cones. One person will be the batter, one person will be the bowler, one person will be the wicket keeper and two people will be the fielders. The wicket is set up with a cone 2m either side of them.

The bowler will bowl the ball to the batter who uses the drive shot to strike the ball. When struck, the fielders need to retrieve the ball and get it back to the wicket keeper. As this happens, the batter needs to run around one of the cones to get a point. If they think they can get around a cone again, they can and will receive a second point.

However, if the ball goes back to the wicket keeper who taps the top of the wicket, the batter loses the points they have gained in that shot. Remember when throwing the ball to the wicket keeper, it needs to be rolled.

After 6 turns, the batter adds together their runs. Each person has a go at batting and the person with the most runs at the end are the winners

Teaching points

- Demonstrate how to grip and hold the bat – Grip the bat with 2 hands. The dominant hand should be at the bottom of the grip with the non-dominant hand above it. Grip tightly with both thumbs pointed towards the floor or gripped around (whatever is more comfortable)
- Drive shot – Standing side on, swing back until the bat is horizontal, then drive the bat forward until horizontal in front of them. As they swing the bat forward, they should step forward with their front foot.
- We are looking for good technique in their strike action. Explain that we don't want to swing the bat too hard or too fast. If we can make good contact between the bat and ball, we do not need to concentrate on hitting the ball as hard as we can as if we do, there's a chance we will miss the ball
- Explain to the children to keep your eye on the ball as you go through your technique

Key Questions

- Can we explain the drive shot?
- How do we grip and hold the bat?
- Why is it important not to swing the bat too much or look to swing with too much power?
- When striking the ball, where should we be aiming?

National curriculum links:

- Use running, throwing and catching in isolation and combination
- Play competitive games against others
- Develop technique and control through playing cricket
- Comparing their performance against a previous attempt and looking for improvements to their technique

Social and environmental skills:

- Developing team work and collaboration skills
- Developing good communication skills
- Showing and developing resilience in trying to improve