

| Curriculum area      | Topic   | Year | Session Number | Skill           |
|----------------------|---------|------|----------------|-----------------|
| Strike & Field Games | Cricket | 5/6  | #4             | Batting Defence |

#### Equipment

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

| Learning Objective                                                                                                                                                           | Success Criteria                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To perform a forward defensive shot with correct technique</li> <li>• To protect the wicket when facing accurate bowling</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I can adjust my feet and bat to strike the ball in different directions.</li> <li>• I can keep the ball on the ground when defending.</li> <li>• I can choose an appropriate shot based on the delivery.</li> </ul> |

#### Key words

- Batting
- Space
- Technique

#### Preparation Ideas/Warm Up

##### French Cricket

Set up an area with 3 fielders and 1 batter. The batter will stand in a large hoop, looking to protect their legs from the opposition team. The 3 fielders will stand around 4-5m away from the hoop at different points around the hoop.

The aim of the game is for the fielding team to pass the ball around their team, looking for an opening to throw the ball off the batter's legs. If they strike the legs of the batter, the game finishes. The batter's job is to last as long as possible without being struck on the leg with the ball. They will do this by batting the ball away when it is travelling towards their legs.

#### Skill Development

##### Defend with a partner

Get the class into pair and give them a bat, a ball and a spot between the 2 of them. They are going to practice their front foot and back foot defence and learn when to use each of the shots. Stand them around 8m apart from each other

The bowler will deliver 5 high pitched deliveries (place the spot close to the batsman and ask the bowler to aim for the spot) then move the spot further towards the bowler (around half way between them and ask the bowler to aim for the spot again). This will give the batsman a chance to practice

their front foot and back foot defence.

After the 10 deliveries, get the children to change roles

### Game

#### 4v1 Bowler vs Batter

Split the children into teams of 5. Give each group 1 bat, 1 ball, 1 set of wickets, a cone and a spot.

Place the spot to either the left or right of the wickets (about 4-5m away). Place the cone about 8-10m away from the batter where the bowler will bowl from. We will then have 1 bowler, 1 batter, 1 wicket keeper and 2 fielders spread either side of the batter. Place a line which the batter needs to cross in order to be safe near to the wickets.

The aim of the game is for the bowler to bowl 6 times to the batter. The batter starts on a score of 10 and has to defend his wickets. Rules are:

>2 runs can be scored by running to the spot and back

>If the ball hits the wickets 2 points are deducted

>If the batter swings and misses the ball 1 point is deducted

>If the batter successfully defends by striking the ball, they get 1 point (even if they don't run)

>If they decide to run and the ball is returned to the wicket keeper who touches the stumps, 2 points are deducted

Switch the roles of the team after 6 bowls to see who can end with the highest score

### Teaching points

- Forward defence – The same as the drive however, the aim is to stop/block the ball rather than trying to strike into space. We want soft hands to stop the ball from travelling too far in front. Facing side on, step forward with the front foot, slightly bending the knees, keeping the back leg straight. Block the ball with the bat, tilting the bat slightly into the ground so the ball bounces immediately, rather than travelling in the air and giving the fielder a chance to catch the ball
- Back foot defence – This time, instead of stepping forward with the front foot and placing the weight on the front foot, we are going to place the weight on our back foot, lifting our front foot heel off the floor so we are on the balls of our feet. We want the bat straight and flat and again; we want soft hands so that the ball falls to the floor in front of us.
- We want the children to understand when to use both of the defensive shots and how the length of the bowl will determine which you use. If the ball is travelling low to us (below the knee) we should use the front foot defence. If the ball bounces and then is coming towards us (travelling above the knee) we should use the back foot defence
- When using the defence, we want the ball to drop close to us. We do not want the ball travelling further than 1-2m in front of us before bouncing. We should use the defence if we are under pressure in a game of cricket or if we feel we need to protect the wickets rather than playing an attacking shot (this may be due to the ball traveling fast or very close to us)

### Key Questions

- What are the two types of defensive shots?
- When should we use the forward defence?
- When should we use the back foot defence?
- When defending, where do we want the ball to land?

**National curriculum links:**

- Use running, throwing and catching in isolation and combination
- Play competitive games against others, applying basic principles for attacking and defending
- Develop technique and control through playing cricket

**Social and environmental skills:**

- Developing team work and collaboration skills
- Developing good team work skills
- Improving our decision making skills