

PE and Languages

Variations on Relay Races

Listening

Divide class into say five teams of six. Put piles of six recently learned items e.g. fruit or clothes, at other side of hall or playground. Call out an item; first child runs to select and takes to back of line. The second child is told an item to bring back and she/he runs to collect it and so on.

Variations:

Change from running to jumping or other movements.

Instead of running throw a bean bag, ball, quoits, foam javelin towards item called out; points given for accuracy.

Speaking

First child in each team runs and collects a card or item. They show it to the second child in the team who says what it is. Teacher/TA/pupil not competing for teams checks it is correct, If it is, then the second person collects a card and shows it to the third person etc. If it is not correct then someone else in the team can say what it is and they run to collect the next card.

Reading

Instead of using pictures, use written words to practice reading.

Writing

Instead of expecting children to say the answer, expect them to write the answer.

Games for Language Learning

Listening / responding games

1 Stand up when you hear

Give each child a number, vocabulary item or sentence (several can have the same). Then call out different ones; appropriate children stand up. Variations: call out more than one item; have a child doing the calling out.

2 Le béret

Two teams face each other. Give each child a vocabulary item e.g. a fruit so that each team has the same items. Call out e.g. *les ananas!* The two 'Ananas' children race for béret. They get a point, unless the other child tags them before they get back to their line.

3 Last Child Standing

An activity to practice sequences of words, e.g. numbers 1-10, numbers 1 - 19, days of the week, months. Children stand in circle. Teacher counts round the circle and child who gets the last number, sits down. Teacher starts counting again with next child and continues counting round the circle. The child, who gets the last number, sits down and so on until there is one child standing.

Speaking games

1 Secret signal

Children sit in a circle. Appoint two detectives, who go outside, and a signaller, who sits in the circle. Agree two words or sentences and a secret signal e.g. touching the ear. The detectives come back in and the children chant the first word or sentence. When the signaller signals, the children chant the other word or sentence. The detectives work out who is signalling.

2 Number ping pong

You say 'one' or multiple of two or ten or whatever, children say next in sequence. 'Ping pong' back and forth.

Variation: do similar with days of week, months of year, or letters of alphabet. Children can alternatively do this in pairs.

3 Last Child Standing

As in previous section, but with children counting themselves.

4 Morpion – noughts and crosses

Draw a numbered noughts and crosses grid on board. Divide class into two teams. One team is noughts and the other crosses. One team chooses a number. Teacher shows the envelope with that number. Team try to guess what is in the envelope. If correct, put O or X in chosen place on board. If it is not correct, other team has a guess. Swap teams until someone guesses correctly and put their O or X in the chosen square.