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Active Games with Equipment

BALLOON BATTLE ROYAL

Activity Level: High

Needed: Any number of players, balloons, string

Arrange Cub Scouts in a large circle, each with an inflated balloon tied to his ankle. On a signal, players try to break all other balloons by stomping on the, while not letting their balloon get broke. When a balloon is broken, they player leaves the game. The game continues until only one player is left.

BEANBAG SNATCH (OR STEAL THE BACON)

Activity Level: High

Needed: Large playing area, even number of players, beanbag

Form two lines facing each other about 25 feet apart. Place a beanbag in the center. Count off the boys in each line from opposite directions. The leader calls out a number and the opponents with that number run to the center. The object of the game is for a Cub Scout to snatch the beanbag and get back to his side without being tagged by the one with the same number from the other side. Score two points if a player brings the beanbag without being tagged. Score one point for the opposing team if the snatcher is tagged.

COVER THE CHAIR

Activity Level: Moderate

Needed: Any number of players, chair for each player.

Boys are seated in chairs in a circle. One player is “It” and stands in the center of the circle, leaving his chair empty. When he commands, “Move to the right,” all players try to get into the chair to their right. While this is going on, “It” tried to get a seat. If he succeeds, the person who should have gotten their chair becomes “It.” To confuse the players, “It” may suddenly call, “Move to the left”—and he stands a good chance of finding a place.

DISK FOOTBALL

Activity Level: High

Needed: Large playing area, even number of players for two teams, plastic flying disk.

Divide the group into two teams, which begin play at opposite ends of a play area. Play begins with the one team “kicking off” (throwing the disk). The receiving team tries to score a touchdown by passing the disk and advancing in downfield to the other team’s goal line. The other team tries to intercept and scare a touchdown. No player may run with the disk and no player may hold it for more than 5 second. Play is continuous. There are no downs.



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POP OR PROTECT

Activity Level: High

Needed: Large playing area, even number of players, inflated balloons, neckerchief or similar piece of fabric to signify Defenders

Divide the group into two teams—the Defenders and the Invaders. Distinguish the two teams by having the Defenders tuck their neckerchiefs in their belts. Toss an inflated balloon between the two teams. The Invaders try to break the balloon by grabbing it, clapping their hands on it, or stepping on it. The Defenders try to protect it by batting it out of reach. Keep track of the time required for the Invaders break the balloon. When it is broken, The Defenders become the Invaders. Give each team three turns as Invaders, and then add their times. The team with the least total time wins.

INDOOR SKI RACE

Activity Level: High

Needed: Large room with a smooth floor, any number of players, 12-by-18-inch construction paper for each boy

Line up boys along a starting line and give each a sheet of construction paper. On a signal, boys tear their sheets in half and place a piece of construction paper under each foot. They then “ski” to the goal line. This game must be played on a smooth floor so the “skis” won’t tear.

Variation: Play as a relay, with each team member skiing to a line and back, and the next boy taking the “skis” and doing the same.

TAILS

Activity Level: High

Needed: Large playing field, even number of players, neckerchief or piece of cloth for each player.

Divide boys into two teams. All players tuck their neckerchiefs loosely into their belts in back to signify tails. On a signal, each team rushes toward the other, trying to capture their tails. Once a boy’s tail is taken, that boy is out of the game. The capturer ties the tail to the front of his belt. The team that captures the most tails wins. This is a good “stalking game” to play in a place where brush or shrubbery provides cover.