

# Cooperative Bean Bag Games

## Activity

**Resource:** Early Learning Resource

**Grade(s):** Early Learning

## Curriculum Expectations

6.5, 7.3

Refer to the [Kindergarten Program 2016](#) for details on the specific expectations.

## Activity Learning Goals

By the end of the activity children will be able to:

- discuss and demonstrate in play what makes them happy, and why
- demonstrate strategies for engaging in cooperative play in a variety of games and activities

## Equipment

- bean bags (one per child)
- [Early Learning Anecdotal Recording Chart](#)

## Safety

Inspect activity area for safe traction and eliminate potential hazards. Remind children to be cautious when moving and to be aware of personal space. Clearly outline the boundaries for the activity keeping them a safe distance from walls.

## Assessment Opportunity

EL-K Team observation of children's demonstrated application of strategies for engaging in cooperative play and communication of what they enjoy about being active can be recorded on the Anecdotal Recording Chart.

## Beanbag Circle Pass

In circle formation, children pass a bean bag around the circle. Add two or three more beanbags. Pass one beanbag to the right, and one to the left. Children work together to keep the beanbags moving quickly.

## Exploration

- Children work with a partner experimenting sending the beanbags: slide, push, and toss objects underhand below the waist to each other. Children identify ways they can help each other to catch the beanbag (e.g., moving closer, watching the object, tossing gently, reach out hands to receive the object).
- Children work with partners to explore and develop tricks and challenges with the beanbag. Partners may develop balances, tricky throws or different ways of catching the beanbag. Allow children to show their tricks and challenges. Encourage children to try the tricks and challenges that they observe others doing.

## Notes to EL-K Team

- Beanbags are easy to catch because of their weight.
- Review with the children the skills of the underhand throw and catching.
  - Underhand Throw: look at the target; point their toes at the target; swing their arm back like an elephants trunk; and step forward as they throw (step with the foot opposite to their throwing hand).
  - Catch: keep their eyes on the ball; make a basket shape with their hands; reach out towards the ball; make the catch soft and quiet like catching an egg.

- With Beanbag Circle Pass, other equipment such as beach balls, deck rings or scarves can be used.
- Consider playing Beanbag Circle Pass in small groups of 4-6

## Connection Questions to Expand and Enhance Play

- Did what we did in class today make you happy? Why or why not?
- What were you and your partner doing to show that you worked well together?