

LEANING TOWER

STUDENT TARGETS

- **Skill:** I will cooperate with my teammates to build a tower.
- **Cognitive:** I will discuss the importance of cooperation.
- **Fitness:** I will stay actively engaged throughout this activity.
- **Personal & Social Responsibility:** I will share equipment and space and work cooperatively.

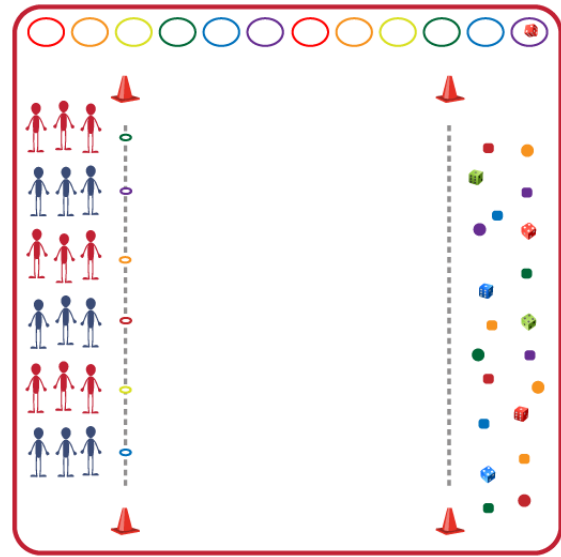
EQUIPMENT & SET-UP

Equipment:

- 1 low-profile cone per group of 3–4 students
- 1 foam ball per group of 3–4 students
- 36+ bean bags

Set-Up:

- Space low-profile cones in a line along 1 side of the activity area.
- Scatter foam balls and bean bags on the opposite side of the play area.
- Create groups of 3–4 students; 1 group at each cone.



ACTIVITY PROCEDURES

1. This Community Connection activity is called *Leaning Tower*. The object of the game is for each team to create a tower on top of your cone using a foam ball and at least 3 bean bags.
2. On the start signal, everyone on your team will move together to pick up a foam ball. Each player must be touching the ball as you travel back to place the ball on the cone.
3. In the same way, your team will then travel to pick up one bean bag, and then return to place the bean bag on top of the foam ball. Continue until your tower is built 3 or more bean bags high.
4. If your tower falls at any time, you must return all materials back to the opposite sideline and start over with a foam ball.

GRADE LEVEL PROGRESSION

- **Grade 3:** Play the activity as described above.
- **Grades 4 & 5:** Challenge students to use 1 finger or an elbow to pick up and transport objects. Add a fitness activity if a team's tower falls.

TEACHING CUES

- **Cue 1:** Move together and make sure all teammates are touching the equipment at all times.
- **Cue 2:** Communicate with your teammates using positive language.
- **Cue 3:** Be an active listener.

LEANING TOWER (continued...)

UNIVERSAL DESIGN ADAPTATIONS

- **UDL 1:** Allow students to work with additional partners to assist with communication if needed.
- **UDL 2:** Utilize visual demonstrations by students as needed.
- **UDL 3:** Provide modified movements or assistive technology as needed to ensure the activity is inclusive for all.

ACADEMIC LANGUAGE

Communication, Actively Engaged, Success

PRIORITY OUTCOMES

Working with Others:

- **(Grade 3)** Works cooperatively with others.
- **(Grade 4)** Accepts players of all skill levels into the physical activity.
- **(Grade 5)** Accepts, recognizes, and actively involves others with both higher and lower skill abilities into physical activities.

DEBRIEF QUESTIONS

- **DOK 1:** What does cooperation mean?
- **DOK 2:** How is cooperation related to success?
- **DOK 3:** How does the way you communicate with teammates assist with success?