



BIG BLUE

PLAY PLAN



STANDARDS:

THE THREE LITTLE PIGS

Physical Education PreK-2: 1.2.9 Demonstrates throwing in a variety of non-dynamic practice tasks.

3.2.3 Uses communication skills to share space and equipment.

RL.K.10 Actively engage in group reading activities with purpose and understanding.

SL.1.1 Participate in collaborative conversations with diverse partners about grade 1 topics and texts with peers and adults in small and larger groups.

SL.2.1 Participate in collaborative conversations with diverse partners about grade 2 topics and texts with peers and adults in small and larger groups.

SET UP: Split blocks into 3 piles of equal number and type of block. Split the kids up into 3 teams and assign them to a pile of blocks.

OPTIONAL:

-have 3 stuffed animal pigs to put inside each house, the storybook "The Three Little Pigs"

-print the award certificates

-print take-home play guides

INTRO:

School/library/ home: read "The Three Little Pigs"

Physical education: quickly review the story, "The Three Little Pigs"

Let's imagine the 3 little pigs had blue blocks instead of straw, sticks, and bricks, and we are going to build their houses! Look at what options you have for building. Think about how you can make your house strong. You are going to be on these teams creating the strongest house you can for the 3 little pigs. Then when the big bad wolf comes, we will see which house has the most blue blocks still standing!

GOALS:

School/ Library/ home: Today you are engineers and teammates. Engineers design strong buildings, and teammates share ideas and solve problems together."

For PE version:

Today we are practicing throwing skills AND teamwork while we test our buildings.

RULES:

You have 15 minutes to construct your house.

✓ Must have a roof

✓ Must have at least one wall that is 3 blocks high

✓ Must be able to "fit" your pig inside (this can be a stuffed animal pig or a student on all 4's)

PLANNING THE PLAY:

Before you touch the blocks, huddle with your team.

👉 What shape will make your house strong?

👉 How will you make the roof stay on?

👉 Who will start building the base?"

Provide the students with 15 minutes with ongoing countdowns throughout their play. Ask prompting questions when issues arise, but avoid giving any answers to solve construction or social issues, as this is the magic of play! Students will learn and internalize their new skills and creativity when they get opportunities to solve their own problems.

At the end of 15 minutes, let the students know that time is up!

Tell students they will be throwing dodgeballs at the houses to mimic the big bad wolf blowing at the houses. Each student can throw one ball.

PREDICTIONS: ask students if they think the houses will mostly stand or mostly fall. Why? Which house looks like it will stand the longest? Tell the students they did a great job using their brains like engineers!

Set the cones at an appropriate distance to allow them to throw at the houses. For younger students (k-1st grade) 6-8 feet. For older students, 15 or more feet. Each student from opposing houses gets to throw one dodgeball. To add a little fun, have them say "I'll huff and I'll puff and I'll BLOW your house down!"

THROWING THE BALLS:

As they throw the dodgeball on the word "blow", Take time to show students how to step with the opposite foot of the arm they are throwing with.

EXAMPLE: let's all practice. (Have all students stand in a line) pretend you have a ball and you are throwing. Now step with your opposite foot at the same time. (Give feedback as needed) Good! Now let's all do it together! Pretend to throw on the word "blow": I'll huff and I'll puff and I'll BLOW your house down!

Instruct students to stand in a line by house 1. The throwers are standing, while non-throwers (house 1 builders) are seated.

All students will stay **BEHIND** the thrower.

After each student throws, they should take a seat.

Repeat with each house. And hand out awards: Strongest structure, Coolest design, & Best teamwork

REFLECTING ON PLAY:

- What shape was the strongest?
- What was the best strategy for throwing?
- Did your team agree right away, or did you have to solve disagreements?

What other building games or ideas did you get while building?

Give 15-20 minutes of open free play with the Big Blue blocks.

