



Hunting



Physical activity/physical literacy links: Developing movement skills (throwing); Developing social skills (taking turns, cooperation); developing confidence; developing competence.

Language/literacy links: Supporting activity with talk and sign (e.g. observing, describing, story-telling)

Equipment: Balls, stuffed animals, or printouts of animals

Let's Make: Stuffed animal printouts or printouts of various animals (children may want to colour printouts of animals)

Where: Indoors or outdoors

Storytime

- ❖ First Nation's people did not have stores in which to shop for their food. They depended on their brothers, the animals, to feed them. Their belief is that the animals gave themselves to the people so that the people will not be hungry. This sacrifice by the animals required the hunters to develop great skills to hunt and harvest the animals without causing suffering for the animal. Knowing that a lance or arrow through the ribs to the lungs or heart was the most quick and efficient way to kill the animals, hunters would try to make the kill quick and with as little pain as possible. This required hours upon hours of practice.
- ❖ Each hunter had to make their own arrows, lances and knives out of stone, which took long hours. If their talents weren't good at making arrowheads and flint knives, they had to find goods to trade for those precious items. This makes the arrowheads and lance points very valuable, another reason to be very careful with them when hunting. Accuracy mattered greatly.
- ❖ Finally, when on the hunt, the Hunters would then pray and show respect for the animals they hunted, giving an offering of precious sacred tobacco when the animal was killed to show their gratitude.



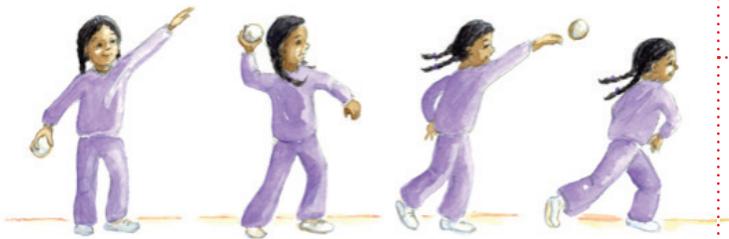


Hunting (continued)

Let's play

- ❖ Begin by securing stuffed animals, or drawings of the animals onto the wall. These will serve as targets for throwing a tennis ball (or mini lance shaped from a dowel or pool noodle).
- ❖ In this game, the children form rows with 5 or 6 children in each row. Row 2 lines up behind row 1, row 3 lines up behind row 2. Each row moves forward when it's their turn. The row in front will be the hunters.
- ❖ The hunters each have a tennis ball to throw at their target. They get 4 chances to hit the target. After each throw, they have to wait for everyone to finish throwing before retrieving their ball (this is especially important when using the lance)
- ❖ After the last retrieval of the ball, they hand it over to the next row to take their turn. Balls can be marked the way that arrows were traditionally marked, with color stripes to identify the owner.

MOVEMENT SKILL: THROW



Cues for your child

Use a rhyme:
 Stand side-on,
 make a star
 Point your finger,
 throw it far

Parts of the skill

- Stand side on
- Take your arm down and back
- Step a big step forward with opposite foot
- Look where you're throwing and bring arm forward
- Let go of the ball when you see your fingers coming through

Tips

- Encourage children to follow through by pointing towards the target long after the ball has left their hand.