

# Lesson: Science Grades K-1

## Topic: Movement of Objects



### Players Take the Field

**Overview:** A game of baseball is a great summertime pastime. Young children need practice running, catching, and hitting. This experience allows them to practice these skills and see themselves in action. As they view their “at bat”, they see what motion is involved when balls are hit and runners advance from base to base.

#### Learning Outcomes:

##### National Standards:

1. Predict the motion of objects (bat, ball, runner).
2. Explore the movement of objects.
3. Things move in many different ways, such as straight, zigzag, round and round, back and forth, and fast and slow.
4. The way to change how something is moving is to give it a push or a pull.

##### Ohio Strands:

1. Investigate ways to change how something is moving.
2. Investigate ways to make things move and what causes them to change speed, direction and/or stop.

#### Getting Started:

##### Materials:

- Video camera
- Whiffle ball and bat
- T- stand
- Bases

##### Technology:

Have a parent helper or another teacher video tape the game or at least segments of the game focusing on the swing and running of the batters.

##### Vocabulary:

- Movement

##### Handouts:

- None

#### Lesson:

##### Orientation activity:

1. Show a video segment of a game of baseball. This should show the players hitting and running the bases.

##### Learning activity:

1. Take students outdoors to the playground where the baseball diamond with bases is already prepared.

2. Explain the rules of a baseball game. Hit the ball off of the tee, run to first base, others pick up the ball and throw it toward first base to try to get the runner out.
3. Videotape the game focusing on students as batters and runners. Try to get examples of missed hits, swings that sent the ball short and long distances, runners advancing from base to base.
4. Return to the classroom and play the tape. First time through, allow students to just watch and cheer.
5. Second time through, play in slow motion and/or pause to show what happens when the bat makes contact with the ball and how the runners move from base to base.
6. Discuss with the students the motion of the balls and the runners. Have students point out examples of changes in direction of the ball and/or bat and when an object stops. Focus on the stationary ball being put into motion by another object. Draw large pictures to help students see the motion.

**Assessment tools and methods:**

- Make observational notes of student ability to follow directions of the game, hand eye coordination for hitting, fielding, and running.
- Students draw a picture of themselves hitting the ball and/or running the bases. They dictate a sentence about the picture for an adult to write as a caption for it. Organize the pictures into a class book about the game.

**Interdisciplinary connections:**

- Physical education: Hand eye coordination, ball handling and running skills.
- Language Arts: Written and oral communication of experiences.