

How to Use CATCH ECE Activities with Playground Stencils

Combine physical activity resources using BOTH the playground stencils and CATCH Early Childhood activities in order to make CATCH even more engaging, minimize the need for equipment and add structured physical activity to the use of stencils.

Vegetable, Animal & Shape Stencils

The vegetable, animal and shape stencils can be great for defining personal space, or as a destination to run and find! Try the following activities using the stencils in place of a poly spot:

Paint the Bubble	#48-49
Forceful Moves	#96-97
Jump!	#89-99
Touch It	#203-204
Bean Bag Balance	#245-246
Body Balance	#255-256
Twist!	#284-285
Sway!	#286-287
Swing	#288-289

Try these ideas: Ask the students to “cut” or “cook” the vegetable that they are standing on, or pretend to be the animal that they are standing on. Switch by hoping or walking to a new stencil.

Alphabet Stencils

The alphabet stencils can be used to reinforce some of the concepts you use in the classroom. You can use the following activity from CATCH:

Letter Search	#278-279
---------------	----------

You may like to grab a few bean bags to toss over some letters. Have the children hop from one letter to the next. When they get to a bean-bag covered letter, they can hop over the bean bag and say which letter is covered.

Line and Squiggle Stencils

The line and squiggle stencils are natural boundaries for children to follow. Use them in CATCH activities that have children moving in an orderly way, like in these activities:

Take a Walk	#74-75
Rabbit and Roo Jumps	#90-91
High & Low/Long & Short	#104-105
Kanga	#114-115
Follow the Leader	#191-192
Run Pum Pum	#193-194
Bean Bag Balance	#245-246
Tightrope Walker	#247-248
Walk and March	#264-265
Gallop & Slide	#266-267
Hop!	#270-271
Skip!	#272-273

Dribbling and Kicking Card Group	#248-258	Have student practice the skill moving down the line, one at a time
<p>The lines and squiggles are also useful for dividing space. Some CATCH activities have students positioned across from each other on either side of a boundary, and other activities use lines for the students to cross, either by moving, or positioning their bodies across a line. Often a rope or cones are used to divide space, but the stencils are hazard- and equipment-free for these activities:</p>		
Lead	#205-206	
Teacher May I?	#218-219	
Bridges and Tunnels	#249-250	
Beach Ball Volley Ball	#313-314	
Beach Ball Challenge	#315-316	
Dribbling and Kicking Card Group	#248-258	Have multiple students practice kicking by lining up behind the line and kicking past the line
Conga Line	#366-367	
<p>You may also use the lines for tossing and catching practice by having students stand across from one another, with the stencil as the divider. Alternatively, students may all stand on one side of the stencil, with poly spots scattered on the other side; instruct students to toss and aim for a red poly spot.</p>		