



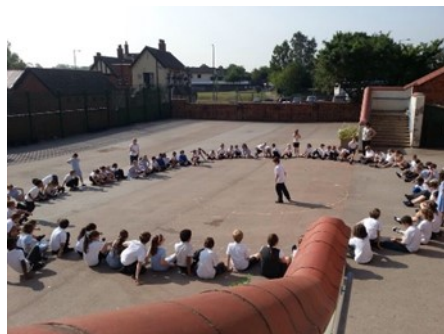
## In Focus: Summer of Sport 2016

With the Olympics in Rio just a few weeks away and Wimbledon round the corner, this In Focus shares activities and resources for celebrating a summer of sport in your school.

### Circle Games on the Playground

This is a great time of year to take circle games outside. You could try games that involve lots of noise like The Incredible Machine or make the most of the opportunity to Listen Together.

Both these activities are explained here on this page taken from our new resource **Learning for Peace**.



#### 5.8 The incredible machine

**Aim:** To warm the circle up and work together as a team.

**Skills:** Listening, cooperating, teamwork, concentrating

**Age:** 7-11

This game is based on circle cooperation. It transforms the circle into a giant machine with lots of strange processes.

In the circle, either as individuals, or in small groups, pupils come up with mechanical actions (sound and movement). They could jump and "pop", they could spin and "whir", they could crouch and "judder" etc. Each action should only be a few seconds long and should be easily repeated.

The actions are then passed around the circle. Each pupil needs to start with their hand out so that they get their cue to start when the previous person touches their palm. Go round the circle so you can see everyone's actions once more slowly and check the machine "works".

Then start again, but encourage a faster pace and this time, the machine can keep working; once you've started the actions, the first pupil can repeat their action four or five times, and the actions should carry on all the way around.

**Variation:** Once the circle is confident at making noises and accompanying actions you can ask someone to step in to the middle of the circle to do their action and sound – on repeat. The action or sound will then inspire someone else from the circle to step in and relate to either the sound or the action. For example, Pupil A could be making a crouch and "judder" to which Pupil B stands behind them to jump and "pop". More people join the machine to make more interrelated parts and sounds.

#### 5.9 Listening together

**Aim:** For the group to experience a quiet and focused moment.

**Skills:** Listening, concentrating

**Age:** 5-11

Have all the children lie comfortably on the floor. Tell them they are going to listen really hard for just two minutes.

Ask them to close their eyes and begin listening for any sounds they can hear outside the classroom.

The sounds they might hear could be the road, the playground, someone talking in the corridor. Leave some silence (about 30 seconds) for them to listen and concentrate on finding those sounds.

Then ask them to shift their attention and listen for sounds inside their classroom. These sounds might be someone breathing near them, the sound of a teacher's voice, the tap dripping in the corner. Leave some silence (about 30 seconds) for them to listen in and concentrate on those sounds.

Now ask the children to listen for any sounds they can hear in their bodies. These sounds might be their breathing, their clothes moving as they breathe, tummies rumbling and so on (one Year 2 child said during this session "I could hear my hair growing!").

After 30 seconds or so, ask the children to wiggle their toes and fingers and open their eyes.

Come back together as a big circle and ask what sounds people heard and what it felt like to really concentrate on listening like that.

**Variation:** Extend the time spent listening for sounds. Don't go beyond four minutes.



# In Focus: Summer of Sport Resources

## A Sporting Chance?

...is a free online resource for exploring inequality between countries with a particular focus on Rio. It includes resources on how rules makes sports fairer. The ideas in it could be adapted to establish Fairness Rules in circle time sessions. This is a cross-curricular resource for 9-14 year olds.

<http://www.oxfam.org.uk/education/resources/a-sporting-chance>



## Brazil Surf School for the Children from the Favelas in Rio de Janeiro

A resource that can help explore life in favelas as a backdrop to the Olympic Games. The surf school has been set up for children from poorer backgrounds. The online resource includes a video and teaching materials.

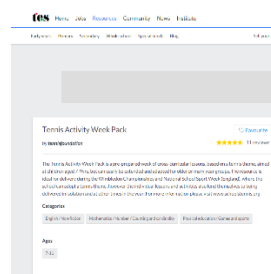
<https://schoolsonline.britishcouncil.org/classroom-resources/schools-world-service-film-resources/brazil-favela-surf-school>



## Tennis Activity Week Pack

...is available for download from the TES website. It includes resources for teaching in PE, Geography, Music, Science as well as other subjects. Some of the activities, for example, Game, Set & Match for literacy and numeracy, are great for working in a circle.

<https://www.tes.com/teaching-resource/tennis-activity-week-pack-6243144>



...and stories

## A Little Piece of Ground by Elizabeth Laird

Karim longs to play football with his mates but in Ramallah they are housebound by a strict curfew. When it ends, he and his friend discover an unused pitch of ground perfect for a football pitch. This story raises thoughtful discussion about life in the West Bank seen through the eyes of a child.



## Looking after Louis by Lesley Ely and Polly Dunbar

An inspiring picture book. Louis has autism and has just started a new school. His friends find a way to include him in a special game of football.

