

Scooter Skeletons

GRADES 3-6

SKILLS/OBJECTIVES: Human skeletal system concepts, cardiovascular fitness, teamwork

NUMBER OF PLAYERS: Unlimited; students are arranged in teams of three or four

EQUIPMENT: One scooter, one hoop, and one skeleton puzzle for each team

HOW TO PLAY: This invigorating activity allows students an actual hands-on approach to the learning of the human skeletal system. The skeleton puzzles required for this activity can be found in many physical education catalogs and educational supply stores. If you don't have access to the puzzles, then simply put together a set of laminated skeletal pictures for each team.

Before play, review the names of major bones and, specifically, the ones that are included in the skeleton puzzle. A large chart of the entire human skeleton system should be placed on a gym wall for reference.



Divide the class into teams of three or four players. Each team lines up behind an end line in a file formation. A scooter and hoop is placed at the front of each team. Take the skeleton puzzle sets (one for each team) and scatter the bone pieces around the opposite end of the gym.

The objective is to be the first group to collect all the bones that would complete the puzzle set—and, to correctly piece together the skeleton set. On a starting signal, the first player on each team moves on their scooter to the opposite end, collects a bone, carries it back to the team's hoop and places it down. In turn, the players scoot out and retrieve the correct bones to complete the skeletal puzzle. Once they have the correct number of puzzle items, they take the bones out of the hoop and piece it together on the floor.

During play, only one bone can be retrieved per turn. Also, players have to return any extra bones not needed to complete their skeleton.