

Steal the Beans

Grades 3-6

INTRODUCTION

This fun team activity will keep children running for a long time!

NUMBER OF PLAYERS

The game description below calls for 16 players; however, just add additional hoops for a higher number of participants.

EQUIPMENT

15-30 beanbags; 5 hoops

HOW TO PLAY

Five hoops are arranged with one in each corner and the other in the center (see diagram above). Any distance between the hoops can be used, but 20-30 feet will be adequate for most age groups. Place an equal number of beanbags in each hoop. Divide the players into four teams and have each team stand in a line behind their designated hoop.

The object of the game is to steal beanbags from the center and outside hoops, return them to the home hoop, and have the highest number of beanbags at the end of play. On a starting signal, the first player from each team runs to the center hoop or any one of the outside hoops to “steal” a beanbag. After returning the beanbag to the home hoop, the player runs to the back of his or team line, and the next player then begins. After all the beanbags have been taken from the center hoop, players must steal from the hoops of the other teams. The following rules are to be enforced:

- A player can take only one beanbag at a time.
- Only one player from each team can be stealing at one time.
- No team can defend or protect its beanbags from being stolen.
- No throwing allowed. Beanbags must be “placed” in the hoop by each returning player.

At the end of a designated time period, the team with the most beanbags in their hoop is declared the winner. A scoring alternative is to have each team try to be the first to reach a predetermined number of beanbags.

