## SESSION GUIDE 6-9 YEAR OLDS



# SESSION 1 

## OBJECTIVE

Experience a high number of touches on the ball and get to 'know their ball'.
Develop the basic skills including: change of pace and direction; learn to enjoy the game of football through self-discovery, experimentation and personal achievement.


On a call from the Program Leader, players run with their football towards the Program Leader ('Here!'), away from the Program Leader ('There!') or perform toe taps on the spot ('Nowhere!').

## SESSION 1

- BEGINNING / 5 MINUTES

EQUIPMENT

- Marker cones to define playing area, 1 football per player

| WHAT TO DO | Setting Up <br> - Establish a large playing area to encourage running (dribbling) with the ball. <br> Playing <br> - Start without the ball at first, then introduce a ball for every player after a few turns; <br> - You explain the actions then make random calls that the players follow: <br> - 'Here!' - all players run with the ball toward you; <br> - 'There!' - all players run with their ball away from you in the direction they are pointing; <br> - 'Nowhere!' - all players stand on the spot and alternately tap the ball with the balls of their feet (toe taps). |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| WHAT TO LOOK FOR | - Are players able to maintain control of the ball whilst dribbling? |  |
| SUGGESTED | - Players must touch the ball every 1 or 2 steps; <br> CHANGES | - Use both feet when dribbling. |




Players with a football experiment with different ways to juggle the ball using various parts of their body.

## SESSION 1

- BEGINNING / 5 MINUTES

EQUIPMENT

- 1 ball per player

| WHAT TO DO | Setting Up <br> - All players have a ball and spread out randomly in the playing area. <br> Playing <br> - Demonstrate how to drop the ball on the ground, lightly kick it and catch it; <br> - Ask 'how many times can you drop, kick and catch your ball in a row?'; <br> - Players can experiment with different types of juggling including: <br>  <br> - Drop onto thigh and catch; <br> - Foot to foot; <br> - Try using both feet. |
| :--- | :--- |
| WHAT TO LOOK FOR | - Are players achieving success? |
| - Is it too hard or too easy? |  |




Players (dribblers) with a football move around the area. One or two players are robbers and attempt to intercept dribblers' balls without making body contact.

## SESSION 1

- MIDDLE / 10 MINUTES


## EQUIPMENT

- Marker cones to define playing area, 1 football per player

| WHAT TO DO | Setting Up <br> - One or two players are robbers and start without a ball. All other players (dribblers) spread out in the playing area with a ball each. <br> - Program Leader can start as robber to ensure game success. <br> Playing <br> - On your signal, robbers attempt to win possession of a player's ball; <br> - When a robber wins possession of a ball, they score a point and give the ball back to the dribbler; <br> - Robbers cannot steal the ball from the same dribbler twice in a row; <br> - Play continues until you call 'Time!’; <br> - Robbers count total score at the end of the game. |
| :---: | :---: |
| WHAT TO LOOK FOR | - Are players keeping control of the ball? <br> - Is it too easy for the robbers? |
| SUGGESTED <br> CHANGES | - Increase/decrease the number of robbers; <br> - Change the size of the area to create more space for dribblers. <br> Objective: <br> Running with th |




On 'Go!' players standing back to back run around a marker on their goal line then attempt to run the football over their opponent's goal line to score a point. Play in groups of 2 to 4.

## SESSION 1

- MIDDLE / 15 MINUTES


## EQUIPMENT

- 1 football per pair, a set of marker cones

| WHAT TO DO | Setting Up <br> - Pairs with a ball collect four marker cones to create their goal lines (Program Leader will need to help set this up for younger groups); <br> - A ball is placed on a goal line at one end of the pitch; <br> - Pairs start back to back in the middle of their pitch. <br> Playing <br> - When the player facing the ball calls out 'Go!' both players run to opposite ends of their pitch and around a marker cone; <br> - The player who was facing the ball collects it and attempts to run with the ball over their opponent's goal line to score a point; <br> - Players take turns facing the ball and calling 'Go!' |
| :---: | :---: |
| WHAT TO LOOK FOR | - Do attackers have control of the ball when they score? <br> - Is it too hard for the attacker to pass the defender? |
| SUGGESTED <br> CHANGES | - Defenders can only move laterally; <br> - Attackers must stop the ball on the line to score; <br> - After a few turns, have players change partners. |




Players in pairs attempt to score as many 'ball hits' as they can in a row by passing their football to make contact with their partner's ball.

## SESSION 1

- MIDDLE / 10 MINUTES


## EQUIPMENT

- Marker cones to define playing area, 1 football per player

| WHAT TO DO | Setting Up <br> - Players in pairs, with a ball each, face each other one metre apart. <br> Playing <br> - Players take turns to pass their ball to make contact with their partner's ball; <br> - Scoring options: <br> - the pair with the highest amount of 'ball hits' in a row wins; <br> - pairs can attempt to beat their own score; or <br> - the team with the highest number of 'ball hits' wins. |
| :---: | :---: |
| WHAT TO LOOK FOR | - Are players getting lots of opportunities to succeed? <br> - Are all players engaged? <br> - Highlight those that are using their instep with success. |
| SUGGESTED <br> CHANGES | - Players can take a step back after a certain number of 'hits'; <br> - Players to try using their non-dominant foot. |




The Program Leader asks players about the games to receive feedback.

## WHO WANTS TO PLAY TODAY'S GAMES




## SESSION 2

## OBJECTIVE

Practise the skill of running with the ball while keeping their heads up.
Develop the skill of passing the ball and continue moving.
Participate in a Small-sided game with many opportunities to score goals



Players with a football each attempt to 'cross the bridge' by running with their ball over the opposite goal line. The bridge is guarded by a troll who attempts to gain possession of a player's ball. Start with Program Leader as the Troll.

## SESSION 2

- BEGINNING / 10 MINUTES


## EQUIPMENT

- Marker cones to define playing area, 1 football per player

| WHAT TO DO | Setting Up <br> - One player starts as the troll; <br> - All other players start with a ball along the goal line. <br> Playing <br> - On the troll's signal, players attempt to cross the bridge by running with their ball; <br> - The troll attempts to gain possession of a player's ball before they reach the opposite goal line; <br> - The player who loses possession of their ball changes place with the troll; <br> - Scoring: <br> - one point = player runs with the ball successfully over the goal line. |
| :---: | :---: |
| WHAT TO LOOK FOR | - Are players keeping the ball under control? <br> - Are all players achieving success? |
| SUGGESTED <br> CHANGES | - Add an extra Troll to increase challenge; <br> - Add bonus points for tricks and turns. |




Players work in small groups. One player from each group runs to a central point to collect one ball at a time and dribbles the ball back to their team-mates at their base and then tags the next player. The aim is to collect the most number of balls.

## SESSION 2

- BEGINNING / 5 MINUTES


## EQUIPMENT

- Marker cones to define playing area, as many footballs as possible (10+)



Players in a team try to score goals by kicking a football past a goalkeeper (krazykeeper) into one of two goals. Play with 4 to 8 per team.

## SESSION 2

- MIDDLE / 10 MINUTES


## EQUIPMENT

- 1 football per player (except for the keeper and fetcher); 1 set of marker cones (30)

| WHAT TO DO | Setting Up <br> - Teams set up an area with 2 goals behind the goal keeper's end. <br> Playing <br> - On 'Go!' one player at a time runs to the centre line, shoots at one of the two goals and runs quickly to take the fetcher's place; <br> - A fetcher starts behind their team's goal line and collects the ball from a goal attempt. They then run back to the start with the ball in their hands or with it on the ground; <br> - A krazykeeper tries to block each goal attempt with their hands or feet; <br> - Teams nominate a new krazykeeper and play again; <br> - Scoring options: <br> - the player with the highest amount of goals scored wins; <br> - teams try to beat their group score. |
| :---: | :---: |
| WHAT TO LOOK FOR | - Are players getting enough opportunities to score? <br> - Is the desired outcome being achieved? |
| SUGGESTED <br> CHANGES | - Move the goals further away to increase challenge; <br> - Add an extra attacker to create a 2 v 1 . Striking the ball, Scoring goals |




Teams play a modified game of football on a pitch with four goals.
There are no goal keepers and no offside. The rules on how to score can be determined by the Program Leader or players to increase fun and participation. Play with 4 to 5 per team.

## SESSION 2

- MIDDLE / 15 MINUTES


## EQUIPMENT

- 1 football per game; team bibs or sashes; 1 set of marker cones (30); pop up goals (optional)

| WHAT TO DO | Setting Up <br> - Form teams (teams self-referee); <br> - All players must be in their own half for the start and re-start of the game (after a goal). <br> Playing <br> - Play starts with a pass forward from the middle of the half-way line; <br> - A minimum of two players on the team must have touched the ball before a goal can be scored. |
| :---: | :---: |
| WHAT TO LOOK FOR | - Are all players involved? <br> - Are both teams creating opportunities to score? |
| SUGGESTED CHANGES | - Teams must complete 3 passes before they can score; <br> - Add another ball to create higher involvement. |




Players with a football experiment with different ways to juggle it using various parts of their body.

## SESSION 2

- END / 5 MINUTES


## EQUIPMENT

- 1 football per player

| WHAT TO DO | Setting Up <br> - All players have a ball and are spread randomly in the playing area; <br> - Demonstrate how to drop the ball on the ground, lightly kick it and catch it. <br> Playing <br> - Ask 'How many times can you drop, kick and catch your ball in a row?'; <br> - Players can then experiment with different types of juggling, for example: <br> - drop onto thigh and catch <br> - foot to foot <br> - catch the ball on the right foot while balancing on the left foot. |
| :---: | :---: |
| WHAT TO LOOK FOR | - Are players achieving success? <br> - Is it too hard or too easy? |
| SUGGESTED <br> CHANGES | - Players to attempt to kick the ball no higher than eye level; <br> - Players to drop the ball straight onto their foot; <br> - Try and use both feet. |



Players are selected to demonstrate actions while the Program Leader asks questions to reinforce the key skills or tactical points.

## SESSION 2

- END / 5 MINUTES


## EQUIPMENT

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## PROGRAM LEADER ASKS

-Where is it best to aim when trying to score a goal?

- Why is it important to look up when running with the ball?
-How do you control the ball as you receive a pass?



## SESSION 3

## OBJECTIVE

Practise the skill of first touch (receive the ball first, then pass or dribble).
Develop the skill of passing the ball accurately to a team-mate.
Participate in a Small-sided game to develop teamwork and communication.



The 'fox' faces three 'geese' who have formed a chain with the baby goose at the back. The fox attempts to tag the baby goose, while the other geese attempt to protect it. Play in groups of 4.

SESSION 3
-BEGINNING / 5 MINUTES

## EQUIPMENT

- 1 stopwatch or clock; team bibs or sashes as a tail for the baby goose (optional)


On the Program Leader's signal, players in pairs pass a football to each other three times between a gate, then move to other gates to repeat the activity - continue for 30 seconds. Pairs score a point for each gate they pass a ball through.

## SESSION 3

- BEGINNING / 10 MINUTES


## EQUIPMENT

- 1 football per pair; 1 set of marker cones (30); 1 stopwatch or clock

| WHAT TO DO | Setting Up <br> - Players set up a gate within the playing area and face each other with a ball. <br> Playing <br> - On your signal, pairs pass a ball three times to each other, then run with the ball to a free gate and <br> repeat the activity; |
| :--- | :--- |
|  | - Continue for 30 seconds until you call 'Stop!' <br> - Pairs score one point for each gate they pass the ball through three times; <br> - Repeat the activity with pairs trying to beat their own score. |
| WHAT TO LOOK FOR | - Where can they stand to make the passes easier/harder <br>  <br> - Are they improving after each round? |
| SUGGESTED | - Make the gates smaller to improve accuracy; <br> CHANGES |




Astronauts in pairs attempt to pass their cargo (the football) across space to score points. Meanwhile, 2 or 3 space invaders attempt to intercept the cargo. Play in groups of 6 to 10.

## SESSION 3

- MIDDLE / 10 MINUTES

EQUIPMENT

- 1 football per pair; 1 set of marker cones (30)

| WHAT TO DO | Setting Up <br> - Divide groups into pairs with one ball per pair; <br> - One pair starts as space invaders (their ball is set aside). <br> Playing <br> - Space invaders keep moving from side to side inside their half of the playing area; <br> - Astronauts can only move behind and along their boundary line to pass and receive their ball; <br> - Set a time limit (such as one minute) for players to score points; <br> - Scoring options: <br> - Astronaut pairs - each successful pas = one point. Highest score is the winning astronaut pair; <br> - Space invaders - each intercept = one point. Highest score is the winning space invader; <br> - Change space invaders with astronauts and play again. |
| :---: | :---: |
| WHAT TO LOOK FOR | - Is the objective being achieved? Why/why not? <br> - How can the game progress? |
| SUGGESTED <br> CHANGES | - Increase/decrease the number of space invaders; <br> Pass the ball, <br> - Players can pass to anyone on the other side, work as a team. First touch |




Teams of 4 v 4 or 5 v 5 play a game of football on a small pitch. No goalkeepers, no offside.

## SESSION 3

- MIDDLE / 10 MINUTES


## EQUIPMENT

- 1 size 3 football or similar per game; 1 spare football per game; team bibs or sashes; 1 set of marker cones (30); 2 pop up goals or marker cones

| WHAT TO DO | Setting Up <br> - Create a pitch suitable for the area and ability of players (maximum of 30 metres by 20 metres); <br> - Form two teams of four players, no goalkeepers; <br> - All players must be in their own half for the start and re-start of the game (after a goal); <br> - Opponents must be five metres away from the ball until it is in play. <br> Playing <br> - Play starts with a pass forward to a team-mate from the middle of the halfway line; <br> - A goal (one point) is scored when the whole ball passes over the goal line between the goals. |
| :---: | :---: |
| WHAT TO LOOK FOR | - Are all players involved? <br> - Are players having fun? |
| SUGGESTED CHANGES | - Bonus points for passes before scoring; <br> - Players can only shoot from within a certain distance to goal. |




All players are allocated a number. While standing in a circle, players try to change positions before the middle player takes their spot. Play in groups of 8 to 10.

## SESSION 3

-END / 5 MINUTES

EQUIPMENT

- 1 set of marker cones (30) (optional), a ball per player

| WHAT TO DO | Setting Up <br> - All players are given a number and form a circle in random order; <br> - One of the players is 'It' and stands in the centre of the circle. <br> Playing <br> - 'It' calls out any two numbers, for example ' 1 and 3 '; <br> - These two players try to swap places before the player who is 'It' takes their place; <br> - The player who fails to find a vacant position on the circle becomes ' It '. |
| :---: | :---: |
| WHAT TO LOOK FOR | - Are players spread out enough? <br> - Do players know their numbers? |
| SUGGESTED <br> CHANGES | - Modify the size of the circle; <br> - Introduce a ball per player if appropriate. |



Players are selected to demonstrate actions while the Program Leader asks questions to reinforce the key skills or tactical points.

## SESSION 3

- END / 5 MINUTES

-Where is it best to aim when trying to score a goal?
-Why is it important to look up when running with the ball?
- How do you control the ball as you receive a pass?


SESSION 4

## OBJECTIVE

Experience a high number of touches on the ball and get to 'know their ball'.
Further develop the skills of 1 v 1.
Gain confidence in passing the ball accurately towards a target.



Two footballs are passed around a circle from player to player. The aim is for one ball to catch up with the other. Play in groups of 6 to 8 .

## SESSION 4

- BEGINNING / 5 MINUTES


## EQUIPMENT

- 2 footballs; 1 set of marker cones (30)

| WHAT TO DO | Setting Up <br> - Form a circle with markers and direct players to stand between each space; <br> - Two players start with a ball and are separated by several players. <br> Playing <br> - Players pass the ball around the circle, trying to overtake the ball in front; <br> - When you call 'Change!' players must change the direction of the pass. |
| :---: | :---: |
| WHAT TO LOOK FOR | - Are players passing the ball accurately? <br> - Is the circle size appropriate for the players involved? |
| SUGGESTED CHANGES | - Change group numbers to create more passing opportunities; <br> - Points for number of completed passes in a certain amount of time. $\qquad$ |




In pairs, players try to make as many passes to each other as they can in 60 seconds.
To add a challenge, every pass has to be across a different boundary line.

## SESSION 4

- MIDDLE / 10 MINUTES

EQUIPMENT

- 1 football per pair; 1 set of marker cones (30)

| WHAT TO DO | Setting Up <br> - Pairs start within the marked area near the centre. <br> Playing <br> - On your signal, pairs move in the same direction and pass the ball to each other across the boundary lines; <br> - Pairs score one point for each pass they make within the time limit; <br> - The activity can be repeated with pairs attempting to beat their score while running in the opposite direction. |
| :---: | :---: |
| WHAT TO LOOK FOR | - Are all players engaged? <br> -How can you increase or decrease the challenge? |
| SUGGESTED CHANGES | - Introduce a defender to try and intercept passes; <br> - Bonus points for one-touch passing. |




One at a time, attacking players with a football enter the playing area and quickly choose one of two possible goal lines to run over before being dispossessed of the ball. Play in groups of 8 to 12.

## SESSION 4

- MIDDLE / 10 MINUTES


## EQUIPMENT

- 1 football per player on the attacking team; 1 set of marker cones (30)


Teams of 4 play in small sided football games. Rotating teams after every goal or after a short amount of time

## SESSION 4

- MIDDLE / 15 MINUTES

EQUIPMENT

- Marker cones, 2 balls per game, goals, bibs




The Program Leader asks questions to reinforce the key skills or learning opportunities.

## SESSION 4

-END / 5 MINUTES

## PROGRAM LEADER

-How can you beat an opponent who is attempting to take possession of your football?
ASKS

- Where should you look when you are striking the ball with your foot?
-How can you make sure the ball goes in the direction you want it to once you have kicked it?



## SESSION 5

## OBJECTIVE

Gain confidence to run with the ball at speed and with direction changes.
Develop the skill of passing the ball accurately to a team-mate.
Participate in a Small-sided game with many opportunities to score a goal.


Everyone tries to tag everyone else! Players who are tagged continue to tag others from a crouch position.

## SESSION 5

- BEGINNING / 5 MINUTES

EQUIPMENT

- Marker cones to define playing area

| WHAT TO DO | Setting Up <br> - Players are dispersed in a large playing area. <br> Playing <br> - On your signal, players run randomly and attempt to tag whoever is nearest to them; <br> - Tagged players crouch and continue to tag others, but cannot change their position. |
| :--- | :--- |
| WHAT TO LOOK FOR | - Are all participants having fun? <br> - Is it safe? |
| SUGGESTED <br> CHANGES | - Add footballs so that players practice dribbling whilst playing; <br> - Limit the number of taggers. |




Teams form a tunnel to roll their football through. The first team to finish calls 'Stop!' and receives a point. After several games, the team with the highest score wins. Play in groups of 6 to 8.

## SESSION 5

- BEGINNING / 5 MINUTES

EQUIPMENT

- Marker cones, 2 balls per game, goals, bibs

| WHAT TO DO | Setting Up <br> - Ask players to form a tunnel with their bodies; <br> - One player from each team has a ball and stands at the front; <br> - The end player in each team stands at the back to fetch the ball. <br> Playing <br> - On your signal, the player at the front rolls the ball through their team's tunnel and immediately joins the <br> tunnel at the front; <br> - The fetcher runs with the ball to the front of the team and rolls it through the tunnel; <br> - When all members of the team have had a turn, they call 'Stop!' and the first team to complete a set <br> wins a point. |
| :--- | :--- |
| WHAT TO LOOK FOR | - Is there a high level of involvement? <br> - Can the players decide how to create the tunnel? |
| SUGGESTED |  |
| CHANGES | - Rotate the types of tunnels used; <br> - Incorporate football skills into the games. |




Two opposing teams are allocated corresponding numbers. When the Program Leader calls their number, those players must run onto the pitch and attempt to score a goal.

## SESSION 5

- MIDDLE / 10 MINUTES


## EQUIPMENT

- 1 to 2 footballs per game; team bibs or sashes; 1 set of marker cones (30) or pop up goals

| WHAT TO DO | Setting Up <br> - Divide players into two groups and distribute team bibs or sashes; <br> - Teams stand on opposite sides of the pitch and are allocated a number (with the corresponding number on the other team). <br> Playing <br> - Roll the ball onto the pitch and call two numbers such as ' 1 and 5 '; <br> - Players 1 and 5 from each team run onto the pitch and attempt to gain possession of the ball and score a goal; <br> - All other players stand on the sideline and can pass the ball back into the pitch if it rolls out; <br> - After no more than 15 seconds, call, for example 'Change 3 and 4'. Players who were on the pitch must leave immediately so that players 3 and 4 can take over playing. |
| :---: | :---: |
| WHAT TO LOOK FOR | - Are all players involved? <br> - Is the objective being achieved? |
| SUGGESTED <br> CHANGES | - Add extra goals to increase likelihood of success; <br> - Move from 2v2 to 3 v 3. $1 \mathrm{yl} \text {, }$ <br> Striking the ball |



Teams play a modified game of football on a pitch with a goal on each touch line. There are no goalkeepers or offside. The rules on how to score can be determined by the Program Leader or players to increase fun and participation. Play in groups of 4 or 5.

## SESSION 5

-MIDDLE / 10 MINUTES

## EQUIPMENT

- 1 to 2 footballs per game; team bibs or sashes; 1 set of marker cones (30)

| WHAT TO DO | Setting Up <br> - Form teams (teams self-referee); <br> - All players must be in their own half for the start and re-start of the game (after a goal). <br> Playing <br> - Play starts with a pass forward from the middle of the halfway line; <br> - A minimum of two players on the team must have touched the ball before a goal can be scored; <br> - Scoring options: <br> - side goals = one point <br> - end goals = three points. |
| :---: | :---: |
| WHAT TO LOOK FOR | - Are players scoring regularly? <br> - Are all players getting touches on the ball? |
| SUGGESTED CHANGES | - Teams must complete 3 passes before scoring; <br> - Play with 3 teams and rotate between them. |



A 'defender' passes a ball into the pitch and immediately runs to defend the goal. At the same time, a 'striker' runs forward to take control of the ball and attempt a shot a goal. Play in groups of 6 to 10.

## SESSION 5

- END / 5 MINUTES


## EQUIPMENT

- 1 football for each keeper; 1 set of marker cones (30) (optional)



The Program Leader asks players about the games to receive feedback.

## SESSION 5

-END / 5 MINUTES


# SESSION 6 

## OBJECTIVE

Practise ball mastery including tricks, running with the ball and passing. Participate in small-sided football games and learn the rules of 4 v 4 football.



Players with a football each attempt to run over the opposite goal line. An 'octopus' stands in the centre of the pitch and attempts to tag players as they cross. When tagged, players must freeze on the spot and attempt to tag other players running with a ball.

## SESSION 6

-BEGINNING / 5 MINUTES

## EQUIPMENT

- 1 football per player; 1 set of marker cones (30)


The Program Leader calls out commands for players to perform various ball mastery skills.

## SESSION 6

- BEGINNING / 5 MINUTES


## EQUIPMENT

- 1 football per player

| WHAT TO DO | Playing <br> - Call out various actions for the players to demonstrate. For example: <br>  <br> - 'Leader says drop the ball onto your thigh and catch it'; <br>  <br> - 'Leader says juggle the football from foot to foot'; <br>  <br> - 'Leader says balance the football on one foot; <br> - Players who do not freeze are not eliminated. They can perform five toe taps on the spot to rejoin <br> the game. |
| :--- | :--- |
| WHAT TO LOOK FOR | - Are players achieving success? <br> - Is it too hard or too easy? |
| SUGGESTED | - Players to attempt to kick the ball no higher than eye level; <br> CHANGES |




Teams play a small sided game of football. There are no goal keepers and no offside. Players can score by knocking down their opponents skittles with the ball.

## SESSION 6

- MIDDLE / 10 MINUTES

EQUIPMENT

- 1 football per game; 1 set of marker cones (30)

| WHAT TO DO | Setting Up <br> - Form teams (teams self-referee); <br> - All players must be in their own half for the start of play. <br> Playing <br> - A minimum of two players on the team must have touched the ball before a goal can be scored; <br> - After a skittle in the goal area has been knocked over, the team that didn't score starts with the football <br> from the halfway mark. |
| :--- | :--- |
| WHAT TO LOOK FOR | - Is it easy to score? <br> - Are all players involved? |
| SUGGESTED <br> CHANGES | - Create 2 no-go zones at each end to change point of attack; |




Teams of 4 v 4 or 5 v 5 play a game of football on a small pitch. No goalkeepers, no offside.

## SESSION 6

- MIDDLE / 15 MINUTES


## EQUIPMENT

- 1 size 3 football or similar per game; 1 spare football per game; team bibs or sashes; 1 set of marker cones (30); 2 pop up goals or marker cones

| WHAT TO DO | Setting Up <br> - Create a pitch suitable for the area and ability of players (maximum of 30 metres by 20 metres); <br> - Form two teams of four players, no goalkeepers; <br> - All players must be in their own half for the start and re-start of the game (after a goal); <br> - Opponents must be five metres away from the ball until it is in play. <br> Playing <br> - Play starts with a pass forward to a team-mate from the middle of the halfway line; <br> - A goal (one point) is scored when the whole ball passes over the goal line between the goals. |
| :---: | :---: |
| WHAT TO LOOK FOR | - Are all players involved? <br> - Are players having fun? |
| SUGGESTED <br> CHANGES | - Bonus points for passes before scoring; <br> - Players can only shoot from within a certain distance to goal; <br> - Restrict number of touches per player. |




Each player holds the hands of two different players. The aim is to untangle the knot without letting go. Play in groups of six or more.

## SESSION 6

- END / 5 MINUTES

| WHAT TO DO | - Players in groups of six or more stand in a circle; |
| :--- | :--- |
|  | - Each player must hold hands with two different players (not a player beside them); |
|  | - Players slowly move to untie their knot by stepping over and moving under their joined hands; |
|  | - To ensure safety, the game should not be played as a race. |



The Program Leader provides a brief explanation about how players can continue to engage in ALDI MiniRoos at their local club. If you are continues for 8,10 , or 12 sessions this may not be necessary yet.

## SESSION 6

- END / 5 MINUTES

| PROGRAM LEADER | - This was our last SESSION. Who wants to keep playing ALDI MiniRoos? |
| :--- | :--- |
| ASKS | OR |
|  | - This was our last SESSION and we have visitors here from the local junior football club. Who wants to <br> join a club? |

PROGRAM LEADER ASKS

- This was our last SESSION. Who wants to keep playing ALDI MiniRoos?

OR join a club?


## SESSION 7

OBJECTIVE
First touch, 1 v 1.



Players run in random directions in a defined area. Players are made aware of the fact that the activity is focused on learning to play safely in the presence of others.

## SESSION 7

- BEGINNING / 5 MINUTES

EQUIPMENT

- Marker cones to define playing area

WHAT TO DO | Setting Up |
| :--- |
| - Define the playing area - a key step in any player/space awareness activities; |
| - Disperse the players. |
| Playing |
| - Players move around, mindful of other players, the boundaries and the surface. For example, if playing |
| outdoors, are there any holes in the ground? |
| - If indoors, an option is to use a backdrop of music; |
| - Change the locomotion - e.g. run, walk, hop, skip, gallop; |
| - Add a ball and have players practice moving with ball at their feet. |
| - Are players keeping their head up; |
| - Can they use both feet with the ball. |
| - Add cones as obstacles to increase difficulty; |
| - Reduce the size of the area. |



Players run around in random directions avoiding body contact with other players. The Program Leader calls a number and players form groups of that size.

## SESSION 7

- BEGINNING / 5 MINUTES

EQUIPMENT

- Marker cones to define playing area

| WHAT TO DO | Setting Up <br> - Mark an area free of obstructions - disperse the players. <br> Playing <br> - Start with slow jogging; <br> - Try several group sizes before you get to the number you would like for a subsequent activity, <br> e.g. start by calling; <br> - 2s, then 6s, and finally the group size you want, such as 4s - you may wish to add a 'new people <br> in the group' rule for the second and third calls; <br> - As an option, use some bright music as a backdrop. Stop the music and call the number for the <br> group size. |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| WHAT TO LOOK FOR | - Short transitions; <br> - Is everyone involved? |
| SUGGESTED |  |
| CHANGES | - Have players move around whilst dribbling a ball; <br> - Change the way they dribble each time (right/left foot, faster/slower) |

Ball majective: directions mastery Change
ctions with the ball


2


2 groups of equal size face each other. Each player has a ball at their feet. On a signal, players pass their ball over a line in the direction of the opposite team. They continue to pass any balls in their area over to the other side to try and clear their own area. After a set period, balls are counted to see who has the fewest balls in their area.

## SESSION 7

- BEGINNING / 5 MINUTES


## EQUIPMENT

- Marker cones to define playing area, 1 ball per player

| WHAT TO DO | Setting Up <br> - Mark an area free of obstructions - disperse the players; <br> - Each player to have a ball at their feet. <br> Playing <br> - Set time of 30 seconds per game; <br> - Encourage different strategies e.g. ball gatherers and ball passers; <br> - Demonstrate the benefits of a good first touch. |
| :---: | :---: |
| WHAT TO LOOK FOR | - Are players finding space to pass the ball into? <br> - Are both teams having fun? |
| SUGGESTED CHANGES | - Modify area to increase/decrease the challenge; <br> - Modify rules - change feet, can only pass from inside own area etc. |




A cooperative game- a ball is passed to a receiver, the passer runs to take the place of the receiver and the receiver in turn runs to join players at the passer's line. (Teams of 4 or more.)

## SESSION 7

- MIDDLE / 5 MINUTES


## EQUIPMENT

- Marker cones to define playing area, one ball per team of players

| WHAT TO DO | Setting Up <br> - Mark an area free of obstructions - place players into teams; <br> - Each team to have a ball on one side. <br> Playing <br> - Player 1 passes the ball to Player 2 and then runs to Line B; <br> - Player 2 passes the ball to Player 3 and then runs to Line A; <br> - Repeat this pattern until the 'stop' signal is given; <br> - Which team can make the most successful passes. |
| :--- | :--- |
| WHAT TO LOOK FOR | - Look for players with a good first touch to demonstrate; <br>  <br> - Can players pass accurately to their teammates. |
| SUGGESTED | - Change to non-dominant foot passing only; <br> CHANGES |

## Objective: First touch, Pass the ball.




Pairs of passers pass the ball to each other, trying to make as many successful passes as possible. Two defenders try to stop the passers and make them start their count again. Off-field, 2 players pass the ball to each other trying to reach a record total (8 or more players).

## SESSION 7

- MIDDLE / 10 MINUTES


## EQUIPMENT

- Marker cones to define playing area, 1 ball per pair of passers, braids or bibs for defenders



A team of 4 or more passers are distributed around the playing field with no more than 2 defenders. The passing team aims to make 5 passes between team-mates without the ball being intercepted.

## SESSION 7

- MIDDLE / 10 MINUTES


## EQUIPMENT

- Marker cones to define playing area, braids or bibs for defenders, 1 ball per game

| WHAT TO DO | Setting Up <br> - Mark a large enough area for passers to spread out; <br> - Ensure there are enough passers to give them an advantage over the defenders. <br> Playing <br> - Set time of 2 minutes per game; <br> - Encourage passers to focus on their first touch to enable quick passing; <br> - Defenders just need to touch the ball to reset the count, discourage them from kicking it away; <br> - Rotate defenders and passers every couple of minutes; <br> - Every 5 passes gets a point, group with highest point score wins. |
| :---: | :---: |
| WHAT TO LOOK FOR | - Are players taking too long to pass the ball? <br> - Is the attacking team achieving success? |
| SUGGESTED <br> CHANGES | - Add the 'hot potato' rule (pass within 3 seconds); <br> - Reduce number of defenders; <br> - Increase area size. |




The Program Leader asks players about the games to receive feedback.

## SESSION 7

-END / 5 MINUTES


## SESSION 8

OBJECTIVE
Passing the ball, running with the ball.



Players are paired off. On a signal, one player, the tagger, tries to tag the other player. At the same time, all the other pairs are doing the same thing - taggers are trying to tag their partners.

## SESSION 8

- BEGINNING / 5 MINUTES

EQUIPMENT

- Marker cones to define playing area, 1 ball per pair

| WHAT TO DO | Setting Up <br> - Form pairs, allow the players to decide which partner is the tagger. <br> Playing <br> - The tagger counts to 5 to give the other player time to get away; <br> - If space is restricted, or on the first occasion, restrict movement to a fast shuffle (2 feet on the ground or pretty close to it); <br> - When a person is tagged, roles swap - don't forget the count to 5; <br> - Introduce balls and various dribbling techniques. |
| :---: | :---: |
| WHAT TO LOOK FOR | - Is everyone involved? <br> - Are they having fun? |
| SUGGESTED CHANGES | - Change partners; <br> - Reduce number of taggers. |




Players work in small groups. One player from each group runs to a central point to collect one ball at a time and dribbles the ball back to their team-mates at their base and then tags the next player.

The aim is to collect the most number of balls.

## SESSION 8

- BEGINNING / 5 MINUTES


## EQUIPMENT

- Marker cones to define playing area, as many footballs as possible (10+)

| WHAT TO DO | Setting Up <br> - Form 4 equal groups, positioning 1 group on each corner of the playing field; <br> - Place a pile of footballs in the centre of the playing area. <br> Playing <br> - On the starting whistle, one player at a time from each group runs out and collects a ball and dribbles it <br> back to their group; <br> - Once a player has returned with a ball the next player may run out and collect another ball. Keep <br> playing until all balls are gone; <br> - The group with the most balls at the end is the winner; <br>  <br> - As a progression, allow players to steal from other groups once all the balls in the middle are gone. |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| WHAT TO LOOK FOR | - Are players dribbling with their heads up? <br>  <br> - Are all players engaged? |




Players try to out-score opponents by accurately passing balls close to the target and displacing opponents' balls to deny access to the target. (Play in small groups.)

## SESSION 8

- MIDDLE / 10 MINUTES


## EQUIPMENT

- Marker cones to define playing area $4 m \times 4 m$, minimum 1 ball per player, different shape/style ball to use as target



Teams play a Small-sided game of football. There are no goalkeepers and no offside rules. Players can score from the front, sides or back of the goal area. The first team to knock down all the opposition skittles wins.

## SESSION 8

- MIDDLE / 15 MINUTES


## EQUIPMENT

- 1 football per game; 1 set of marker cones (30), bibs or braids, skittles (witches hats)

| WHAT TO DO | Setting Up <br> - Form teams (teams self-referee); <br> - Create a no-go area around skittles. <br> Playing <br> - All players must be in their own half for the start of play; <br> - A minimum of two players on the team must have touched the ball before a goal can be scored; <br> - After a skittle in the goal area has been knocked over, the team that didn't score starts with the football from the halfway mark. |
| :---: | :---: |
| WHAT TO LOOK FOR | - Is it easy to score? <br> - Are all players involved? |
| SUGGESTED <br> CHANGES | - Create 2 no-go zones at each end to change point of attack; <br> - Set-up two playing areas to increase involvement; <br> - Bonus points for number of passes. |




Partners line up opposite each other with a skittle (target) next to them. Players pass the ball at each other's skittle to try and knock it over. Play best of 3 wins.

## SESSION 8

- END / 5 MINUTES


## EQUIPMENT

- Marker cones to define playing area, skittles (witches hats, balls on cones), 1 ball per player


The Program Leader asks questions to reinforce the keys skills from the session.

## SESSION 8

-END / 5 MINUTES

## PROGRAM LEADER

-What part of your foot did you use to pass more accurately?
ASKS
-Where should you look when dribbling to make sure you don't run into anyone?

- Which parts of your foot can you use to dribble with the ball?



## SESSION 9

OBJECTIVE
1 v , running with the ball.



3 players form the net by holding hands. They catch others by surrounding them. Caught players join the net and the game continues. (Play with 6 or more).

## SESSION 9

- BEGINNING / 5 MINUTES


## EQUIPMENT

- Marker cones to define playing area, 1 ball per pair



Players practise running with the ball at their feet (dribbling) and try to avoid the markers. Points are awarded for teams that get through without touching the markers.

## SESSION 9

- BEGINNING / 5 MINUTES


## EQUIPMENT

- Marker cones to define playing area, 20 markers to be spread out in the 'dodge' area, minimum 1 ball per player



Players in pairs pass a ball back and forth in the centre of a playing field. When the Program Leader calls 'Ball!' the player who is receiving the pass must turn and dribble the ball to the goal behind them and shoot before being caught by their opponent.

## SESSION 9

- MIDDLE / 5 MINUTES


## EQUIPMENT

- Marker cones to define playing area, 1 ball per pair, goals (markers) behind each line.

| WHAT TO DO | Setting Up <br> - Organise players into pairs with one ball per pair; <br> - Pairs line up facing and two metres apart in the centre of the playing field and pass the ball back and forth to each other. <br> Playing <br> - When you call 'Ball', the player with the ball (or about to receive the ball) must dribble it to the goal behind them and try and score; <br> - The player who does not have the ball is to chase the player with the ball and try to stop them from scoring; <br> - Defenders are not allowed to tackle attackers from side on or behind. |
| :---: | :---: |
| WHAT TO LOOK FOR | - Are players passing the ball quickly? <br> - Is everyone involved? |
| SUGGESTED <br> CHANGES | - Swap partners after a few turns; <br> - Start without chasing defenders; <br> - Move goals further away from shooting line. |




A player passes four consecutive balls into the field of play and then runs between markers to score points. When the fielding team have returned all four balls to the start position, they call 'STOP!' The player who just passed the balls calculates their score and a new player is nominated to have a turn. Play in groups of 6-10.

## SESSION 9

- MIDDLE / 20 MINUTES


## EQUIPMENT

- Marker cones to define playing area, 4 balls per field, extra cones/goals for bonus points



Players with a football each attempt to 'cross the bridge' by running with their ball over the opposite goal line. The bridge is guarded by a troll who attempts to gain possession of a player's ball. Play one troll for every six ball runners.

## SESSION 9

-END / 5 MINUTES

## EQUIPMENT

- 1 football per attacking player; 1 set of marker cones (30)

| WHAT TO DO | Setting Up <br> - One player starts as the troll; <br> - All other players start with a ball along the goal line. <br> Playing <br> - On the troll's signal, players attempt to cross the bridge by running with their ball; <br> - The troll attempts to gain possession of a player's ball before they reach the opposite goal line; <br> - The player who loses possession of their ball changes place with the troll; <br> - Scoring: <br> - one point = player runs with the ball successfully over the goal line. |
| :---: | :---: |
| WHAT TO LOOK FOR | - Are players keeping the ball under control? <br> - Are all players achieving success? |
| SUGGESTED <br> CHANGES | - Add an extra Troll to increase challenge; <br> - Add bonus points for tricks and turns. |




Players are selected to demonstrate actions while the Program Leader asks questions to reinforce the key skills or tactical points.

## SESSION 9

-END / 5 MINUTES

EQUIPMENT

\author{

- 1 goal and 1 or 2 balls
}

PROGRAM LEADER
ASKS
-Where is it best to aim when trying to score a goal?

- Why is it important to look up when running with the ball?
- How do you control the ball as you receive a pass.



## SESSION 10

## OBJECTIVE

Passing the ball, first touch.



2 groups. Half the players try to turn the markers with the round side up and the other half with the round side down (dish up). On a signal, players run around trying to flip over the other group's markers to match their own.

SESSION 10

- BEGINNING / 5 MINUTES


## EQUIPMENT

- Marker cones to define playing area, minimum 1 marker per player



Players with a football experiment with different ways to juggle the ball using various parts of their body.

## SESSION 10

- BEGINNING / 5 MINUTES


## EQUIPMENT

- 1 football per player

| WHAT TO DO | Setting Up <br> - All players have a ball and spread out randomly in the playing area. <br> Playing <br> - Demonstrate how to drop the ball on the ground, lightly kick it and catch it; <br> - Ask 'How many times can you drop, kick and catch your ball in a row?'; <br> - Players can experiment with different types of juggling including: <br> - drop onto thigh and catch; <br> - foot to foot; <br> - catch the ball on the right foot while balancing on the left foot. |
| :--- | :--- |
| WHAT TO LOOK FOR | - Are players achieving success? |
| - Is it too hard or too easy? |  |




Players in a circle pass a ball to one another. Once the ball is passed the player moves to where they passed it. Play in groups of 5.

## SESSION 10

- BEGINNING / 5 MINUTES

EQUIPMENT

- 1 ball per group

| WHAT TO DO | Setting Up <br> - Players in small groups stand in a circle with 1 ball per group. <br> Playing <br> - Players pass the ball to another player not directly beside them, then follow their pass and stand directly behind the player they passed it to; <br> - The player who receives the ball passes it to another player and follows their pass; <br> - Once players have the hang of it, see how many passes they can complete in 1 minute. |
| :---: | :---: |
| WHAT TO LOOK FOR | - Are the passes accurate? <br> - Is everyone getting a go? |
| SUGGESTED CHANCES | - Increase/decrease the size of the circle; <br> - Players pass with non-dominant foot. |




2 or more teams working in parallel pass balls at a target ball and try to move the target ball over a goal line.(4 or more players.)

## SESSION 10

- MIDDLE / 10 MINUTES


## EQUIPMENT

- Playing area about the size of a volleyball court divided into separate areas, 2 balls per player where possible, ball to use as target


4 v 4 or 5 v 5 - the playing area has a score line at each end. The team with the ball aims to pass or dribble the ball into their opponents' end zone line.

## SESSION 10

- MIDDLE / 10 MINUTES

EQUIPMENT

- Marker cones to define playing area $20 \mathrm{~m} \times 30 \mathrm{~m}, 1$ ball per game, bibs/braids to differentiate teams

| WHAT TO DO | Setting Up <br> - Set up field with goal zones and separate teams. <br> Playing <br> - Players are to work as a team to try and get the ball into their opponents' end zone; <br> - To score, the ball must be stopped inside the boundaries of the end zone; <br> - After scoring the opposing team starts with the ball at half way. |
| :---: | :---: |
| WHAT TO LOOK FOR | - Are players using passes to try and score? <br> - Is everyone engaged? |
| SUGGESTED CHANGES | - Defending team can only walk; <br> - Add another ball to increase player involvement. |



The Program Leader asks questions to reinforce the key skills from the session.

## SESSION 10

- END / 5 MINUTES


## PROGRAM LEADER

 -What part of your foot can you use to control the ball?ASKS
-Why is it important to have a good first touch?

- Which part of the foot can we use to get more power in our passes?



## SESSION 11

OBJECTIVE
Running with the ball, passing the ball.



Players with a football each attempt to run over the opposite goal line. An 'octopus' stands in the centre of the pitch and attempts to tag players as they cross. When tagged, players must freeze on the spot and attempt to tag other players running with a ball.

## SESSION 11

- BEGINNING / 5 MINUTES


## EQUIPMENT

- Marker cones to define playing area, 1 ball per player

| WHAT TO DO | Setting Up <br> - One player starts as the octopus; <br> - All other players start with a ball behind the goal line. <br> Playing <br> - On the octopus's signal, players attempt to cross the pitch by running with their ball and avoid being tagged by the octopus; <br> - Tagged players must freeze on the spot and hold their ball under their foot; however they can tag other players that run past; <br> - The last player to successfully cross the pitch without being tagged wins. |
| :---: | :---: |
| WHAT TO LOOK FOR | - Are players keeping the ball under control? <br> - Are all players achieving success? |
| SUGGESTED CHANGES | - Add an extra octopus to increase challenge; <br> - Add bonus points for tricks and turns. |




Teams try to collect their opponents' balls and return them to their own half.

## SESSION 11

- BEGINNING / 5 MINUTES


## EQUIPMENT

- Marker cones to define playing area, 1 ball per game, bibs/braids to differentiate teams


Players (dribblers) with a football move around the area. One or two players are robbers and attempt to intercept dribblers' balls without making body contact.

## SESSION 11

- MIDDLE / 10 MINUTES


## EQUIPMENT

- Marker cones to define playing area, 1 football per player

| WHAT TO DO | Setting Up <br> - One or two players are robbers and start without a ball. All other players (dribblers) spread out in the playing area with a ball each. <br> Playing <br> - On your signal, robbers attempt to win possession of a player's ball; <br> - When a robber wins possession of a ball, they score a point and give the ball back to the dribbler; <br> - Robbers cannot steal the ball from the same dribbler twice in a row; <br> - Play continues until you call 'Time!'; <br> - Robbers count total score at the end of the game. |
| :---: | :---: |
| WHAT TO LOOK FOR | - Are players keeping control of the ball? <br> - Is it too easy for the robbers? |
| SUGGESTED CHANGES | - Increase/decrease the number of robbers; <br> - Change the size of the area to create more space for dribblers. |




In pairs, players try to make as many passes to each other as they can in 60 seconds. To add a challenge, every pass has to be across a different boundary line.

## SESSION 11

- MIDDLE / 10 MINUTES

EQUIPMENT

- 1 football per pair; 1 set of marker cones (30)

| WHAT TO DO | Setting Up <br> - Pairs start within the marked area near the centre. <br> Playing |
| :--- | :--- |
|  | - On your signal, pairs move in the same direction and pass the ball to each other across the <br> boundary lines; <br> - Pairs score one point for each pass they make within the time limit; <br> - The activity can be repeated with pairs attempting to beat their score while running in the <br> opposite direction. |
| WHAT TO LOOK FOR | - Are all players engaged? <br> - How can you increase or decrease the challenge? |
| SUGGESTED | - Introduce a defender to try and intercept passes; <br> - Bonus points for one-touch passing; |
| CHANGES |  |
| - Place a cone in the middle, before moving to the next boundary the player with the ball must dribble |  |
| around the cone. |  |




Teams play a modified game of football on a pitch with four goals. There are no goal keepers and no offside. The rules on how to score can be determined by the Program Leader or players to increase fun and participation. Play with 4 to 5 per team.

## SESSION 11

- MIDDLE / 15 MINUTES


## EQUIPMENT

- 1 football per game; team bibs or sashes; 1 set of marker cones (30); pop up goals (optional)

| WHAT TO DO | Setting Up <br> - Form teams (teams self-referee); <br> - All players must be in their own half for the start and re-start of the game (after a goal). <br> Playing <br> - Play starts with a pass forward from the middle of the half-way line; <br> - A minimum of two players on the team must have touched the ball before a goal can be scored. |
| :---: | :---: |
| WHAT TO LOOK FOR | - Are all players involved? <br> - Are players having fun? |
| SUGGESTED <br> CHANGES | - Bonus points for passes before scoring; <br> - Players can only shoot from within a certain distance to goal; <br> - Restrict number of touches per player; <br> - Adjust area to create more/less space. |




The Program Leader provides a brief outline of what will be taking place in the final session

## SESSION 11

- END / 5 MINUTES


## PROGRAM LEADER

-What the players have liked most about the sessions?
ASKS
-What to expect in the final session next week?

- The positives from the session.



## SESSION 12

## OBJECTIVE

Combine all the skills into football games. Have fun.



On the Program Leader's signal, players in pairs pass a football to each other three times between a gate, then move to other gates to repeat the activity - continue for 30 seconds. Pairs score a point for each gate they pass a ball through.

## SESSION 12

- BEGINNING / 10 MINUTES


## EQUIPMENT

- 1 football per pair; 1 set of marker cones (30); 1 stopwatch or clock

| WHAT TO DO | Setting Up <br> - Players set up a gate within the playing area and face each other with a ball. <br> Playing <br> - On your signal, pairs pass a ball three times to each other, then run with the ball to a free gate and <br> repeat the activity; <br> - Continue for 30 seconds until you call 'Stop!'; <br> - Pairs score one point for each gate they pass the ball through three times; <br> - Repeat the activity with pairs trying to beat their own score. |
| :--- | :--- |
| WHAT TO LOOK FOR | - Where can they stand to make the passes easier/harder; <br> - Are they improving after each round? |
| SUGGESTED | - Make the gates smaller to improve accuracy; <br> CHANGES |




Teams of 4 v 4 or 5 v 5 play a game of football on a small pitch. No goalkeepers, no offside.

## SESSION 12

- MIDDLE / 10 MINUTES


## EQUIPMENT

- 1 size 3 football or similar per game; 1 spare football per game; team bibs or sashes; 1 set of marker cones (30); 2 pop up goals or marker cones



The Program Leader provides a brief explanation about how players can continue to engage in ALDI MiniRoos at their local club. If you are continuing for 8,10 , or 12 sessions this may not be necessary yet.

## SESSION 12

- END / 5 MINUTES


## PROGRAM LEADER

- This was our last SESSION. Who wants to keep playing ALDI MiniRoos?

OR

- This was our last SESSION and we have visitors here from the local junior football club. Who wants to join a club?



[^0]:    - 1 goal and 1 or 2 balls

