

Large Group Poker

Grade Three & Four



Large Group Poker is a fun and engaging game that promotes teamwork, movement, and social interaction. Participants will practice their memory and teamwork skills while forming poker hands with others. If they don't complete the required hand, they'll complete a fitness challenge, which adds a fun physical element to the game.



Learning Intentions

I can practice teamwork and communication skills:

Students will collaborate with others to create specific poker hands, learning how to work together and communicate effectively.

I can apply strategic thinking and memory skills:

This game encourages students to recall poker hands and match cards, fostering strategic thinking in a fun, competitive environment.

I can stay active and engaged while participating in a game:

After each round, students will perform a fitness challenge, keeping them physically engaged throughout the game.



Success Criteria

Effective Communication and Collaboration:

Students successfully work with others to create the poker hands and communicate clearly to complete the task within the given time.

Engagement and Participation:

Students remain engaged throughout the game, participating in both the card collection and fitness challenges.

Completion of Fitness Challenges:

Students complete the fitness challenges enthusiastically when they are unable to form the required poker hand.



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Objective:

Large Group Poker is a fun and engaging game that promotes teamwork, movement, and social interaction. Participants will practice their memory and teamwork skills while forming poker hands with others. If they don't complete the required hand, they'll complete a fitness challenge, which adds a fun physical element to the game.

Players:

- Ideal for 20 or more participants.
- If you have more than 52 players, use two decks of cards to ensure each player gets a card.

Materials:

- One or two decks of playing cards.
- A space for participants to move around and form poker hands.
- A printed or visible display of poker hands (e.g., flush, straight, full house, etc.).
- A list of fitness exercises for the fitness challenges.

Setup:

1. Distribute the Cards:

Hand out a card to each participant. If you have more than 52 players, make sure to have a second deck of cards available.

2. Prepare Movement Instructions:

Have a space cleared for movement, as students will be walking, hopping, skipping, and doing other physical activities.

3. Display the Poker Hands:

Have a visible chart showing the different poker hands (flush, straight, full house, etc.) that players will be trying to form.

Gameplay:

1. Move Around the Space:

Once each participant has their card, instruct everyone to start moving around. They can walk, hop, run, skip, jump, sidestep, or crawl like animals (e.g., bear crawl, crab walk).

2. Form the Poker Hand:

The instructor calls out a poker hand for players to form (e.g., "Full house," "Straight," "Flush"). Players need to find other participants with the correct cards to complete the hand.

• Poker Hands Examples:

- **Straight:** Five cards in sequential order (e.g., 2-3-4-5-6).
- **Pair:** 2 cards of the same number (e.g., 4 & 4)
- **Flush:** Five cards of the same suit (e.g., all hearts).
- **Full House:** Three of a kind and a pair (e.g., three 10s and two Jacks).



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3. Fitness Challenge:

After 30 seconds to 1 minute, if any players were unable to form the called poker hand, they must complete the fitness challenge.

4. Fitness Challenges:

- Round 1: 10 Squats
- Round 2: 10 Push-ups
- Round 3: 20 Mountain Climbers
- Round 4: 10 Sit-ups
- Round 5: 15 Squat Jumps
- Round 6: 10 Leg Raises
- Round 7: 5 Burpees

5. Repeat the Game:

The game continues for as many rounds as desired. After each round, players find new partners to form different poker hands. The instructor can mix up the time limit to keep the game fast-paced and exciting.

Winning the Game:

- The game doesn't have a traditional winner.
- The game can continue until a set time or number of rounds.
- At the end of the game, celebrate everyone's participation and teamwork.

Variations for Different Settings:

1. Modified Edition:

Simplify the poker hands and reduce the time given to form hands if needed. Focus more on the fitness challenges and team-building aspects.

2. Team Building Edition:

Assign participants into teams and encourage collaboration to form poker hands. Teams with the most successfully completed hands can earn points toward a team total.

3. Educational Edition:

Include math elements by having students calculate the total value of their hand or encourage them to practice counting and adding numbers as they work to form hands.

Additional Notes:

Large Group Poker is an energetic game that blends strategy, math, fitness, and social interaction. It's perfect for large groups and classroom settings. It promotes teamwork, communication, and quick thinking, while keeping participants active and engaged through fitness challenges.

