

## Jump for Joy

**Introduction:** Students love to tell stories and entertain others. During this activity, students will get a chance to do both. The students will want to do again and again!

**Grade Level and Subject:** 2nd Grade Writing and P.E.

**TEKS:** Writing – 14A-D, 15A-B, 18A-F  
P.E. – 1A, 1C, 1D, 1F, 1M, 3A

**Materials:** A jump rope, hula hoop, and two tennis balls for every student

**Resource:** *The Ultimate Playground & Recess Game Book* by Guy Bailey. ISBN: 0-9669727-2-4

**Activity:** The teacher will begin the lesson by asking what types of things a student can do with a jump rope on the playground. After generating a list of reasonable responses, the teacher will complete the same types of lists with the students for the hula hoop and tennis balls. Once done, the teacher will have three lists of physical activities that can be accomplished on the playground with the items mentioned above.

From the three lists, the teacher will write a short story on the board about a child who took the previously mentioned items on the playground and played with them. The story will include the jump rope, hula hoop, and the tennis balls, and the main character uses these items in a fun way. For example, the teacher might write about a girl named Sally who wanted to get some exercise. The little girl went to the playground and found a jump rope. Sally jumped 10 times with the rope until she spotted the hula hoop. The hula hoop was twirled on the girl's arm until she found the two tennis balls. She tried to juggle the tennis balls until her mom called her to come home and eat.

Once the model writing example is written on the board, the teacher will encourage the students to write a story about a little girl or boy who found the same three things on the playground. The child in the story is to do something with all three items.

After the students finish their writings, the teacher should take the students to the playground or the gym. They are to carry their jump rope, hula hoop, and tennis balls with them. The teacher will read the first child's story. As he or she reads the events in the story to the children, the students are to do the things the main character is doing with the three items. After the teacher has read the first story, he or she continues reading the other stories while the students use their ropes, hula hoops, and balls to re-enact the stories and have fun. Play continues in this manner until all stories have been read.

**Evaluation:** The teacher will read all stories prior to going to the playground or gym to ensure that the activities are reasonable and easy to understand. He or she will monitor all activity on the playground.



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