

## High Conclusions

**Introduction:** Students rarely get a chance to go outside and practice their reading skills on the playground. This activity combines drawing conclusions — a hard concept to master for some students — with some good, old-fashioned playground fun. The students will really appreciate the chance to practice some “reading” on the playground.

**Grade Level and Subject:** 3rd Grade Reading and P.E.

**TEKS:** Reading – 12J  
P.E. – 1B, 1C, 3A, 3B, 3C, 7A, 7C

**Materials:** A foam ball

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

**Activity:** Before beginning this activity, the teacher should make “conclusion” cards for each student. He or she will give these cards to the students before game play.

The teacher should take the students to the playground, and each student will be given one “conclusion” card. The students should become familiar with the word(s) on the card that they were given. The students should place their cards in a safe place, such as a pocket, and make a circle around the teacher. The teacher will hold the ball and begin the activity.

The teacher will begin the activity by reading one of the statements listed below (under Drawing Conclusions). He or she will then count to 10, giving the students a chance to match their particular conclusion with the statement. When the teacher has reached 10, he or she will throw the foam ball high into the air. The student with the matching conclusion will run to catch the ball while the other students run away from it. Once the student has caught the ball, he or she will yell, “Freeze!” All other students will stop moving and stand in place. The teacher will check to see if the conclusion is the correct match with the statement he or she has read. If it is correct, the student gets a chance to use the ball. If it is incorrect, the statement will be read again, the ball thrown in the air, and another student will get a chance to catch the ball.

If the student’s conclusion matches the statement, the student gets a chance to throw the foam ball at another student (similar to dodge ball). If the student hits a fellow student with the foam ball, a point is awarded, and the student throwing the ball gets a chance to hit another student with the ball. Play continues in this manner until the student misses a fellow student with the ball. He or she then counts the points made during this portion of the game and relates them to the teacher, who will monitor all points during the activity. Play resumes, with all students coming back to their starting positions and having another statement read to them as the activity continues.

The player with the most points will be the champion of the activity.

**Evaluation:** During this activity, the teacher makes sure that the conclusion matches the statement. He or she might want to give a brief explanation of the statement and conclusion match, as drawing conclusions is a hard concept to master for some students.

**Drawing Conclusions:** These are examples; teachers might want to use their own materials. Place the conclusion part of each statement on cards for the students to have during game play.

1. If you played one of these, you'd need lungs that were strong. To fill it with air, you'd blow hard and blow long. It is: (Conclusion: tuba)
2. Rachel recognized the kind that her mother wore. It always made her think of spring flowers. It is: (Conclusion: perfume)
3. Many people have one in their homes, often on a wall. They help us plan our days and remember important events. They are: (Conclusion: calendars)
4. Some cowboys come here just to ride a mean horse. There'll be contests and racing and judging and more. They are at: (Conclusion: a rodeo)
5. We usually think of them as one-legged "bad guys" with swords. Any person who robs or hurts someone on the sea can be called one of these. It is: (Conclusion: a pirate)
6. These are very large mammals. People use parts of these sea mammals to make fuel for lamps, perfume, food, and many other things. They are: (Conclusion: whales)
7. These small things make music; you blow air in and out. Some call them mouth organs; you've heard that, no doubt. They are: (Conclusion: harmonica)
8. Diane and Karen were best friends until Diane began having feelings that she wasn't proud of at all. She didn't like the fact that Karen was so popular and had fun with other people. Diane was: (Conclusion: jealous)
9. James had never seen such a long one in his life. He watched his dad pay the toll and wished that his dad would drive a little faster so they would be on the other side sooner. James and his dad were on: (Conclusion: a bridge)
10. Mom used this "screaming monster" when she was cleaning the house. We thought Mom enjoyed it so much because she couldn't hear us while it was running. It was: (Conclusion: a vacuum cleaner)
11. This sport is fun; all the rules you must know. You go up in a plane; then it's out the plane you go. You are: (Conclusion: sky diving)
12. Ellen could not live in one of these because she did not like really cold weather and snow. Also, she did not want to live in a house made of frozen blocks. Ellen did not want to live in: (Conclusion: an igloo)
13. Without these, people would spend time in puddles and on the streets. The little lines in these have something to do with breaking "your mother's back." These are: (Conclusion: sidewalks)
14. Rita loves spending time with all four of these. She eats lunch with them once a week so they can see how their children's daughter is doing. They are: (Conclusion: grandparents)
15. You must wear one of these when you are on bicycles or skateboards. Having one of them on might help you to "keep your head." These are: (Conclusion: helmets)
16. There are two sides to this thing, with a lens on each one. You can watch birds with these, and it makes it more fun! They are: (Conclusions: binoculars)

17. Children are usually unhappy about doing this. Most parents make sure it is completed before children go outside to play after school. It is: (Conclusion: homework)
18. These pests spread diseases and bite people and animals. They cause a great deal of itching, and they sing a terribly annoying song. They are: (Conclusion: mosquitoes)
19. All humans have one; frogs and fish have one, too. Without it, you'd find there's not much you could do! This is: (Conclusion: a brain)
20. They are very small rooms that move up and move down. Most tall buildings have them, especially buildings in town. They are: (Conclusion: elevators)



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