

Hula How?

Introduction: Students in the third grade start writing papers with much more regularity than in the previous grades. They are beginning to differentiate between the different styles of writing and know why each is important. This activity gives the students a chance to write a set of directions for another person to follow.

Grade Level and Subject: 3rd Grade Writing and P.E.

TEKS: Writing – 14C, 15A, 15B, 17C, 17D, 18A-F, 19C
P.E. – 1A, 1B, 1C, 3A, 3B, 5A, 7A-C

Materials: A hula hoop for every student

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

Activity: The teacher will give the students instruction and practice in writing a “how to,” or expository paper. The students will then be directed to think of two or three physical activities that other students can do with a hula hoop. They are to write an expository paper putting the hula hoop activities in a reasonable sequential order. For example, a student might direct another student to place the hula hoop around his or her waist and twist 20 times, throw the hula hoop up in the air 10 times, and then jump through the hula hoop five times. The teacher will check all of the papers for accuracy and reasonableness, and then it is off to the playground.

On the playground, each student will hold his or her own hula hoop. The teacher will hand out the expository papers that tell the students what to accomplish with the hula hoops. The students will then follow the directions given in the paper handed to them. Once he or she has accomplished all of the directions on the paper, the student will hand the paper back to the teacher. The student can then get another paper and perform the directions written on it. All students should follow the directions written in the expository papers.

Depending on the skill level of the writer, the teacher can add or subtract the number of things the students must accomplish during the hula hoop activity. For example, great writers may be able to direct a student to accomplish five or more different physical activities with the hula hoop, while a beginning writer may only direct the students to accomplish two things with the hula hoop. The variety of activities found in each paper will add some fun to the activity. The teacher should encourage the students to be creative with their hula hoop activities. Play continues until all students have performed all of the activities written by the other students.

Evaluation: The teacher will check each paper for correctness and reasonableness, ensuring that all students can perform the activities described in every paper.



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