Amoeba Tag

Introduction: When learning how different organisms reproduce, the teacher will discuss with the class the amoeba’s reproductive manner. By combining the following activity with the material, the students will get a great understanding of the concept being taught.

Grade Level and Subject: Fourth Grade Science and P.E.

TEKS: Science 8A, 8B
      P.E. 1A, 3A, 3D, 4B, 7A

Materials: none

Resource: 201 Games for the Elementary Physical Education Program by Jerry D. Poppen.
ISBN: 0-13-042061-1

Activity: The class will be on the playground or in the gym for this lesson. They will walk to an area that provides plenty of room to play tag.

The teacher will choose three students to be the first amoeba. The three players will hold hands while the rest of the group positions themselves randomly throughout the playing area.

The students chosen as the first amoeba will work together as a team by trying to catch the other students. When the amoeba tags another student, that student will join the amoeba by grabbing the hand of one of the amoeba students. The amoeba continues to tag students and have them join their amoeba line. Once the amoeba grows to six members, the students who are the amoeba will divide in the middle (three students in each group) to form two amoebas. The game will continue until all of the students have been tagged and are part of an amoeba or until only a few players have not been tagged.

The teacher might want to start the game with two amoebas if the class membership is large.

Evaluation: The teacher should monitor the game closely to ensure that students are not getting too tired or aggressive during game play.