Paraphrase/Summarize Relay

Introduction: One of the hardest concepts that fifth graders need to internalize is the ability to recall, inform, or organize ideas when comprehending text. This activity will give fifth grade students a chance to practice paraphrasing/summarizing by taking it to the playground. The students will appreciate the chance to move while practicing a difficult skill.

Grade Level and Subject: Fifth Grade Reading and P.E.

TEKS:  
Reading 10G  
P.E. 1B, 1C, 1K, 2B, 3A, 7A, 7B

Materials: chalk, 5–10 basketballs


Activity: The students should have had several days of classroom instruction and practice with these particular objectives before completing this activity.

On the concrete portion of the playground, the teacher should draw two parallel lines about 5–10 feet apart. The lines should be about 15–20 feet long. One of these lines will be the starting line, and the other one will be the halfway point at which the students will turn around and come back to the starting line.

The teacher, after providing instruction in paraphrasing and summarizing, will divide the students into groups with 5–6 members. He or she will take the class, along with the balls, to the concrete portion of the playground where the lines have been drawn.

Each group is to line up with 4–5 feet on each side of the group. The first member of each group should be at the starting line, with the other group members lined up behind him or her in a straight line. The teacher will ensure that the first member of each group has a basketball.

The teacher will begin the activity by reading a portion of a text (the text can come from student textbooks or supplemental materials) so that all students can hear him or her. It should be a short portion of text and have 2–3 answer choices (paraphrasing or summarizing) in which the students will attempt to choose the correct answer choice. The teacher will ask the first member of each group to give the answer choice that the student thinks is correct. On a signal given by the teacher, each student holding the ball will bounce it and run. If the student gave the correct answer choice, he or she will run/dribble the ball to the halfway point (the line drawn by the teacher that is 5–10 feet away), turn around, and come back to the starting line (dribbling and running all the way). That team then receives a point. If the student gave an incorrect answer choice, he or she will run/dribble to the halfway point and come back to his or her group but will not receive a point. Play will continue with the second person in each line. Every student should get at least one chance to answer a question and run/dribble with the ball. The team with the most correct answers will win the relay game.

Evaluation: During this activity, the teacher will observe to see which students are unsure of the answers needed to score a point. The teacher will provide additional and/or supplemental instruction to those students.