Musical Hoop Addition

**Introduction:** Musical chairs is a great activity to get many people moving while paying attention and listening. This activity, which is based on musical chairs, gets the students moving while learning basic addition facts to 18. The students will love it.

**Grade Level and Subject:** First Grade Math and P.E.

**TEKS:**
- Math 3B, 11A
- P.E. 1A, 1B, 1F, 3A, 3B, 6A, 6B, 7A, 7B, 7C

**Materials:** hula hoops (enough for every student), music, addition cards

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

**Activity:** Before beginning this activity, the teacher should make addition cards. Using note cards or paper of similar size, he or she is to write addition problems on the front side of the card and place the answer to the addition problem on the back side of the card. The teacher should make several of these cards so they may be shuffled around during game play if needed.

This activity can be played outside or in the gym. Since the cards will be placed around the playing area, the gym is the better place for this activity. If the lesson has to be played outdoors, the teacher needs to ensure that the wind is not a factor in the game!

The teacher should begin the activity by placing hula hoops around the gym. Inside each hula hoop, the teacher should place an addition card. The students are to come into the gym and randomly stand, waiting for the music to start.

Once the music has started, the students are to walk (or gallop, hop, jump, leap, skip, etc.) around the gym. They should not touch the hula hoops yet. When the music stops, the students are to go to the nearest hula hoop and hop in it. Each student should pick up the addition card in the hula hoop and try to answer it. He or she can then look at the answer on the back side of the card to see if his or her answer was correct. The student will then place the card back in the hula hoop with the addition problem showing instead of the side with the answer on it. When the music starts again, all students are to jump out of the hula hoop they were in and randomly begin moving around the gym again. Once the music stops, each student should hop into another hula hoop (making sure that he or she has not been in that hula hoop yet), and try to answer the addition problem placed in that hula hoop. Play continues in this manner until the students have had a chance to hop into all of the hula hoops and attempt to answer the addition problems found in the hoops.

If the teacher wants more structure and organization during the activity, he or she can set up the hula hoops in such a way that the students follow a certain path around the gym.

**Evaluation:** The teacher should monitor all activity. Watch that all students are moving to different hula hoops and that the students are placing the cards correctly in the hoops. That way, the students are not looking at the answer side of the card when they move into the hoop.