

Tag Game Based on Octopus Tag/Capture the Flag

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PURPOSE

As a group, we thought of this game as a fun way to educate others on the ocean literacy principal of how the Earth has one big ocean with many features. We also wanted to highlight the issue of how our oceans are being negatively impacted by anthropogenic impacts.

HOW TO PLAY

Set Up

This game requires a lot of space, therefore, it is recommended that it is played in an outdoor field or inside a gym with significant space. Small balls or other similar items should be placed in a line along one side of the area. Those are used to represent resources found in the Ocean like minerals, and food.

GAME INSTRUCTIONS

First, have a group of at least 10 people and choose between one to three people to be on a different team from the others. The team with a greater number represents humans and our actions while the other represents the ocean and organisms that inhabit in it. Hence, the team that represents the ocean will be on the side with the balls.

Then, similar to octopus tag, one person from the ocean team (or just the sole person) will call out "OCEAN" and the team that represents humans will begin to run towards the other side of the playing field. After everyone from the team running reaches the other side, the person calling will once again yell "OCEAN" and the other team will try to run back to their original side.

The objective of the team that represents the ocean will be to try to take the balls and bring it back to the other side. On the other hand, the ocean team will try to stop the opposing team by tagging them. However, their feet are planted to the ground and can only tag others with one hand. This obvious disadvantage is used to represent how our oceans have a very weak defense against our actions. If tagged, the person must join the ocean team and take on the role of trying to tag others while following the rules stated previously.

The game will continue on until either the ocean team tags everyone from the other team or if the team that represents anthropogenic actions is able to bring all the balls to their side. However, these rules clearly favour the team that represents human actions as this game is mean to highlight how our oceans are no match against our harmful actions. Therefore, it emphasizes the point that we must stop recklessly taking advantage and all the resources that our oceans offer, and take action in helping our ocean thrive.