Koolchee

A ball rolling game that was played by the Aboriginal people in the Lake Eyre and Warrina regions of Central Australia. The ball is called a koolchee. Koolchees are rolled to either hit other koolchees or to knock over a skittle.

What you need
- A suitable indoor or outdoor area (a smooth surface will allow the koolchees to roll without deviation).
- Tennis balls, boccia balls or other alternative balls for the koolchee (ball).
- 3 skittles per player.

Hit a koolchee (cooperative play)

Playing the Game
- Teams at each end of an area roll koolchees (tennis balls) towards each other – no scoring.
- The aim is to hit another koolchee. Depending on the ability level of the players, children may start by rolling the koolchees to each other.

T.R.E.E.
Change the separation between skittles, use different sized koolchees, adjust the distance between teams.

Competition Koolchee

Playing the Game
- A team game (4-6 per team) where players roll a koolchee attempting to knock down an opponent’s skittle at the other end. Skittles are placed 2 - 3 metres in front of each team.
- The winning team is the one who knocks down all the opponents’ skittles.
- Teams avoid hitting their own skittles.
- Players may ‘defend’ their own skittles by rolling koolchees to hit koolchees that might knock over their own skittles.
- Koolchees can’t be recovered from the playing area.
Use the TREE model to modify this game.
Try the modifications suggested below or devise your own.

**Cooperative Koolchee**

**Playing the Game**

- Two teams facing each other work together to knock the skittles over.
- One koolchee per player.
- Around 10 skittles placed between 2 facing teams 10 metres apart.
- Players communicate and work together to knock all the skittles over.

**Practice Koolchee**

**Playing the Game**

- Players roll koolchees attempting to knock down skittles.

**Teams**

- 3 – 4 players per team, 5 or more skittles per team and at least 4 koolchees per team.
- Allow each player 5 attempts. Increase the distance and repeat, for example 10 metres then 15 metres – teams keep a total of the skittles knocked down.

**Individual**

- The player who knocks down the highest number of skittles is the winner.
- Players are not allowed to retrieve koolchees from the area between the throwing line and the skittles.

**Koolchee Challenge**

**Playing the Game**

- A koolchee is rolled at a wall where it rebounds. The aim is to knock over a skittle.
- Play with a larger koolchee (soccer ball size).
- Skittles are placed 5 metres from the wall and players stand back 10 metres from the wall. Adjust distances to suit abilities.
- Three attempts are allowed. If the skittle is knocked over it is moved back another metre.
- If the skittle is missed on all three attempts it is moved closer to the wall.

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