

# QUICK AND EASY TOY DISTRIBUTION

- Students of all ages **LOVE** playing with various types of **equipment**. As a warm-up or intro activity, have the equipment visible and allow them to enjoy free exploration in individual space.
- **When you are ready to begin the lesson**, give your signal (a long strong whistle blow), give specific instructions for them regarding what to do and how to handle the equipment. ("Freeze! Put your hoop around your waist, come on in and gather round, place your hoop on the ground and sit inside of it criss-cross applesauce.")
- If you don't want the students to get into the equipment right away, put it someplace where it won't be a distraction - keep it bagged up, or out of view.
- When you are ready to **distribute the equipment**, use.. "By the time I count to five I want you to go get a Fluffilo, come back to me, and sit quietly with your Fluffilo on your head, and your hands folded in your laps. Do it as quickly and quietly as you can. Ready? Go!" Then count. Be specific about what they are to do, how quickly they are to do it, and what they are to do when they've done it (sit quietly).
- **To distribute equipment quickly and efficiently** spread out the equipment on the other side of the playing area, or have piles on opposite ends of the field, then have the students hustle over to get their equipment. Use various locomotor movements such as galloping, hopping, sliding, gliding, etc. You can even challenge them by giving one move to use (such as bear crawl) TO the equipment, and then another move (kangaroo hop) on the way back.
- **Use students** to help set up, distribute, and clean up equipment. Although you will never have group-elected team captains, or team captains who pick teams, YOU will want to appoint team captains to help out with equipment distribution and clean-up. **Team captains** can also learn leadership skills by being motivators for their team and helping with team enthusiasm as well as keeping the team in line (quiet, listening, playing fairly, etc.)
- **Provide many team captain opportunities**. Give every student in the class equal time as captain. For shy students, always make it an option, or wait a few weeks before putting them on the spot. Once comfortable in the class, and after you have established an emotionally SAFE environment in the class, they will probably be ready!
- Incorporate **equipment distribution** and clean-up into your warm-ups and cool-downs. By having the students travel and move in various ways to pick up their equipment, it serves as a very good warm-up! During their cool-down time, or immediately following the last activity that requires equipment, have the students bring in the equipment and put it away. Use your team captains to collect equipment from their teams and to perform the final count on the equipment. **Be sure to count it up after every lesson.**

TOYS TOYS WONDERFUL TOYS!!!