

Rube Goldberg/Domino Bowling

Objective: To creatively construct a unique lane that will knock down bowling pins. To learn about Rube Goldberg.

Equipment: Blue bins, bowling pins, noodles, cones, bowling balls, tires, mats.

Activity Description:

8 lanes of 3-4 students will work creatively to construct different systems of equipment that will knock down bowling pins. Each lane will have a certain amount of equipment assigned to them to use.

Procedure:

1. Tell students about Rube Goldberg and his way of inventing comical, complicated inventions to perform a simple task. Relate it to bowling.
2. Indicate to students the goal of today is to construct simple or complicated systems using different types of equipment to knock down the bowling pins. Detail the different equipment they can use. Be creative!
 - o 5 blue bins
 - o one mat
 - o 10 bowling pins
 - o 1 tire
 - o noodles
 - o other equipment not mentioned but thought of later.
3. Demonstrate a system constructed by the teacher and point out the expectations of each group (safety, respecting space and collaboration). While demonstrating, pass around previous year's pictures of what kids created.
4. Have kids sit behind a numbered cone. Once each group is seated, then let the kids start the activity by getting a ball and extra equipment.
5. The kids have 15 minutes to construct one of their best examples and have it set up by the end of the 15 minutes.
6. Give students 2-3 minutes to plan before they start using the equipment.
7. Continue to roam around the groups and give feedback/suggestions about their creations.
8. Have each student group show their example in front of the whole class.

Check for Understanding:

- o Are students keeping equipment in their lanes?
Respecting other people's space?

- o Do students understand the concept of a system to knock down the pins?

Closing:

- o Comments about the creativity and pictures taken for future website use.
- o Procedure for cleaning up are explained.

Variations:

- Have students draw a schematic of their plan before starting it or as they are creating their lane.