



Footy tunes

Activity overview

This activity begins with students participating in a handball brainstorm game. Students then create and perform an Australian football related song using only their body as their instrument.

Time required

Approximately 90 minutes

Materials

- Class set of *Worksheet: Footy tunes*
- AFL Junior footballs similar to NAB AFL Auskick footballs for group activity
- AFL team songs available in the Resources section of the AFL CD-ROM
- CD player
- AFL CD-ROM and suitable equipment to show footage, such as computers and data projectors

Preparation

Teachers may choose to view video clips from the Resources section of the AFL CD-ROM in which handballing can be observed.



Key Learning Area

The Arts
English
Health and Physical Education

Year levels

Years 3–4

Footy tunes



Activity steps

1. Group students into AFL teams to focus on one team song. Use the lyrics of the songs in the resources section of the AFL CD-ROM. Students discuss the purpose of the team song for players and supporters. Record discussion points and word examples in a table as shown below.

Purpose of a football team song	Word or phrase examples from the team song
Identifies the team	Team name Team colours (eg navy blue) Team mascot (eg Tiger)
Celebrates team achievements	Greatest team Fly up Win Success

2. The teacher or skilled students demonstrate the skill of the handball. Place the ball on the outstretched palm of your non-preferred hand stand nearly side on, then, with a clenched fist with thumb outside the fingers, strike the ball on the end with your other hand (After making contact with the ball, the fist stays on the non preferred hand ie 'catch the fist'). The handball could be introduced during a physical education class prior to introducing this activity. If this activity is conducted inside, ensure that the students follow safety instructions and disallow kicking.
3. Put students into small groups and provide each group with a football or small ball if no footballs are available.

Students handball to others in their group. When students receive the ball, they need to call out a football-related word (if they can't think of a word, they say 'handball') and the activity continues.

Discuss ideas of words, including team names, players' names, skills, ground names, food you eat at the game, etc. There is no right or wrong answer.

Sample words could include: 'football', 'handball', 'drop punt', 'torpedo', 'specky', 'mark', 'bounce', 'kick', 'half back', 'full forward', 'Collingwood', 'Adelaide', 'Port Adelaide', 'West Coast Eagles', 'Fremantle', 'Brisbane Lions', 'Geelong', 'Hawthorn', 'North Melbourne', 'Essendon', 'leap', 'run', 'Carlton', 'umpires', 'umpy', 'Melbourne', 'Western Bulldogs', 'Richmond', 'St Kilda', 'Sydney', 'quarter', 'full time', 'grand final', 'whistle', 'heroes', 'ruck', 'goal', 'point', 'mud', 'champions', 'Hawks', 'Pies', 'Cats', 'Demons', 'Bombers', 'Swans'.



4. The teacher stops the activity when he or she feels that most groups have exhausted their supply of football words. Then as a class the students brainstorm all of the words they came up with in their groups. Write them on the board.
5. Put students back into their initial groups and instruct them to use the words, combined with their own words, to write the lyrics of a footy song. They can use either the tune of an existing AFL team song or some other familiar or favourite song as the tune for their football song. Distribute the Worksheet to enable students to plan and write the song. It must have two verses and two choruses.
6. Play an AFL team song for the class as an example. These are available in the Resources section of the AFL CD-ROM.
7. Using only their bodies as instruments, for example singing, clapping, stamping, or slapping thighs, groups perform their song to the class. When practising, students could record their 'footy tune' and listen for changes they might like to make.
8. Remind students that they must not talk during other groups' performances. If necessary, discuss the importance of respect for others.

Assessment ideas

- Interpersonal learning: observe student's ability to work as part of a group.
- Creating and making: observe the part students play in creating their footy tune. Observe student's ability to keep to a rhythm.
- Observe skills when handballing.

Optional extension

- Students could use instruments to perform their song.
- Alternatively, groups could use props and dress up in football gear, video their performance and create a class football video clip.



Worksheet: Footy tunes

Name: _____

Music of my group's footy tune: _____

Title of my group's footy tune: _____

Lyrics of my group's footy tune:

The tune must have two verses and two choruses.

First verse

Footy tunes





Chorus

Second verse

Chorus

Footy tunes

