



Have children gather in a circle, arms length away from one another.

Find a ball, beanbag, or object that can safely be tossed and caught by the children.

You will need to play music that will be able to be both paused and played during the Hot Potato game. It can be a class song, a song from the radio, or any song you think will motivate children to get moving!

Once you start the music, children will either pass or toss the ball or beanbag to their neighbor acting as though it is a literal hot potato and getting it out of their hands as soon as possible!

Randomly stop the music at various points. Whoever has the 'Hot Potato' in their hand when the music stops becomes a cheerleader for their friends and a new round starts.

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Try upping the difficulty by having children answer a question before passing the 'Hot Potato' along to another player.

Play a song that has an increasing beat to it to leave children guessing when the song will be stopped.

For more experienced players, have children toss the ball across the circle to another player. If the player drops the toss, they must have the tosser throw it to them until they catch it!

Make players toss to someone who has not yet received the ball. Once the final person catches the ball, the options reset.

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## CONNECTION TO LEARNING

- Practice using listening skills as the music starts and stops.
- Practice taking turns and waiting for a turn.
- Depending on which variation you choose to play, it can also work to be a great memory game too!
- Practice concepts you are working on in class by asking questions in between each toss!



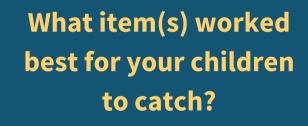
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What song did you find that worked well for 'Hot Potato'?

How would you choose to adapt this activity?

How did you make this game unique to your classroom or home?



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