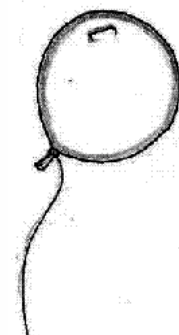


BALLOON RACE

a game for activity time



There are many games you can play with balloons:

Volley ball style games (with multiple balloons or oblong balloons for variety); **Popping games** such as popping relays or tying balloons on kids's ankles - they try to stomp and pop each others' balloons; **Carrying games** (trying to carry as many balloons as possible); **Keeping it in the air games**; **Putting clues or prizes inside balloon games...** and of course, if you have a warm day and a tolerance for a lot of chaos: **water balloon games**

One of Hip, Hip Hooray's favorite balloon games is:

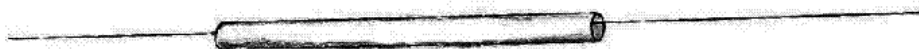
BALLOON RACE

This game takes a little preparation, but it is worth it.

supplies: large balloons, drinking straws, tape, string.

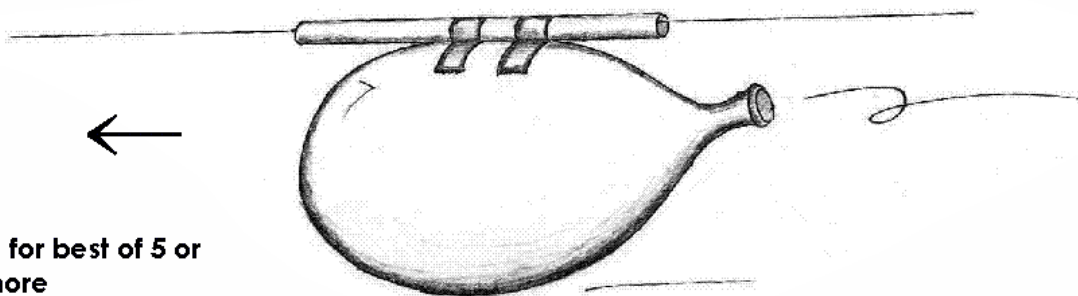
set up:

1. Put a long length of string through a drinking straw. Make half as many of these strings-with-straws as you have children.



2. Tie an end of these strings-with-straws to something (chairs work). Stretch the strings parallel with each other across a large room, three feet or so above the ground. Tie the other end. Have these parallel strings at least two feet apart from each other.
3. Group your kids into teams of two. Have each team line up by a different one of the strings-with-straws. Each team will have one balloon and some tape (or you can come around with the tape).
4. Have one member of each team BLOW UP their balloon, holding - **not tying** the end. While this person holds the balloon, have the other team member tape the balloon to the **straw** on their string. The end of the balloon should be facing the starting line. When all the teams are ready, have them "Get ready, Get set...Go". At "Go" the teams release the balloons and the balloons will be propelled down the string.

You can score either by which balloon gets to the end first or by which balloon goes the farthest.



repeat the race for best of 5 or best of 7 ... or more