



Bat tapping

Each player has a suitable batting implement and ball. The aim is to keep tapping the ball into the air with the bat for as long as possible. Many variations are possible.

What you need

- > 1 ball and batting implement per player (suitable to player ability)



What to do

- > Players tap their ball up and down on their bat, and count the number of consecutive taps they get.
- > If a player drops their ball, they start counting from the beginning.

Change it

- > Vary the bat and ball.
- > Play cooperatively in pairs or groups of 3 and vary the distance between players according to ability.
- > See how many times players can tap the ball on different parts of the bat.
- > Players try to hop/jump as many times as they can while the ball is in the air.
- > Allow players one bounce on the ground in between taps.

Safety

- > Check there is enough space between players and away from walls or other obstacles.
- > Bats must not be swung around or raised more than chest high.

Scoring

- > Award 1 point per successful hit.

Ask the players

- > How do you persist with a task when at first you aren't successful?
- > How many taps can you get in a row? Ask players to set a goal and try to reach it.
- > Which part of the bat do you need to hit the ball with so that it will go straight up in the air?
- > What technique did you find was the best for making the most consecutive hits?
- > How high did you need to hit the ball in the air to make sure you had time to get ready for the next hit?
- > Which bats/balls make this easier/harder?

Teaching tips

- > Keep your eyes on the ball.
- > Keep the face of the bat parallel to the ground so that you can hit it straight up in the air.
- > Hold the bat at the bottom of the handle to have greater control and accuracy.

LEARNING INTENTION

Bat tapping supports students to develop hand-eye coordination and striking skills.