Y3 and Y4 Ball Skills

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What is the best way to catch a ball?

St George's Central CE Primary School and Nursery

| Key Words | Definition |
|-----------|---|
| Throw | Propelling/forcing something through the air by a movement of the arm and hand. |
| Catch | Stop an object falling to the ground |
| Bounce | To hit a surface and rebound backwards |
| Direction | The way in which something is travelling |
| Target | The thing that someone is aiming at |
| Overarm | A single handed throw where the object is released above the shoulder. |
| Underarm | A single handed throw where the object is released below the shoulder. |

Above the waist Below the waist

| <u>Catch</u> | | |
|--------------|---|--|
| Preparation | Feet move to place the body in line with the ball | |
| | Eyes are focused on the ball | |
| | Hands reach out to meet the ball | |
| Reception | Hands adjust to the path and size of ball | |
| | Fingers are soft and slightly cupped | |
| | The ball is caught in hands only (not forearms) | |
| | Hands and fingers close at the correct time | |
| | Elbows bend to absorb impact | |

Assessment Focus:

- Throw and kick in different ways
- Throw and catch with both hands
- Throw underarm
- Hit a ball with a bat

use catching skills in a game

Coaching Points

Equipment – This is key in providing differentiation. Balloons, for instance, can be fantastic for practising throwing and catching at an early age. There are throwing and catching sets available that provide a range of resources to cater for different abilities.

Technique – When first attempting to catch, encourage the child to catch the ball by wrapping their arms around the ball and cradling it to their chest. When their accuracy to catch the ball against their chest improves, encourage them to use only the palms of their hands and fingers.

Focus – Prepare children for a catch by getting them to concentrate on the ball in the thrower's arms. Begin by using verbal clues such as 'look' (before the throw), 'ready' (before releasing), 'catch' (when in flight).

'Never settle for less than your best'