

Piggy in the Middle



*Approach:* Team

*Focus:* Game strategy.

*Resources:* Video recording on laptop computer, pair and team answer sheets.

*Level:* Year 8

Questions/instructions:	% responses
This activity uses the computer.	y8
Click the <i>Piggy in the Middle</i> button.	
You are going to watch videos of children playing <b>Piggy in the Middle</b> . In this game the person or people in the middle try to stop the ball from getting through.	
In the first video, the two people throwing the ball are doing a good job of getting the ball past the person in the middle. As you watch the video, think about the ways the two children keep the ball away from the person in the middle. You will see the video two times.	
Click the <i>Play</i> button to show <i>Clip 1</i> .	
<i>[see top of adjacent page]</i>	
Hand out pair answer sheets.	
In your pairs (B1 and B2 work together, B3 and B4 work together), write down on the answer sheet all the ways the two children kept the ball away from the person in the middle.	
Give students time.	
Now I want you to tell each other what you have written down.	
Allow time.	
Collect in pair answer sheets.	
<b>How the two children kept the ball away from the person in the middle:</b>	
<i>[ideas from two pairs]</i>	
passer and receiver moving around a lot	82
passer moving/throwing quickly	64
passer tricking/faking	73
communication/teamwork between passer and receiver	29
high pass ( <i>over top</i> )	95
low/bounce pass	90
deliberately varying strategies	53



[Video clip 1 – one person in the middle]

Now you are going to watch the game being played, but with two people in the middle. As you watch, think about why it is harder for the two people on the outside to get the ball through to each other. You will see the video two times.

Click the *Play* button to show *Clip 2*.

This game was harder to play with two children in the middle. As a team I want you to talk about why it was harder for the two people on the outside to get the ball through to each other. Think of as many reasons as you can, and write them on this answer sheet.

Hand out team answer sheet. Allow time.



[Video clip 2 – two people in the middle]

	% responses y8		% responses y8
<b>Why it is harder for the passer and receiver with two children in middle:</b>		<b>You have talked about why it was harder for the two people on the outside to get the ball through to each other.</b>	
cramped – movement harder	69	If you were in the middle, can you think of other ideas for stopping the ball from getting through?	
more obstacles, less space for passes	62	Try to tell me as many ideas as you can.	
harder to trick/fake two people	14		
piggies can operate as a team	39		
piggies can mark both passer and receiver	82		
average length of passes increased	13		

*Commentary:*  
No commentary.