

The Hares' Giant Berry Soup

(Jänisten jättiläismarjasoppa)

BALLOON KICKING AND THROWING PLAY

Type: indoor play

Age: **4 to 7** years

Players: **4–10** children

Duration: **5–10** minutes

Online support materials

[Audio recording / Teeny-tiny Boogie Boots instrumental 2 \(soundcloud.com\)](#)

[Picture cards / Activity and Equipment Cards \(pdf, oomc.fi\)](#)

Skills exercises

- Kicking
- Throw and catch combination
- Listening to music / identifying major and minor keys



Equipment

- Audio recording: Teeny-tiny Boogie Boots instrumental 2.
- Each player is given their own balloon, which is a giant berry.
- A long chiffon scarf or string is tied to the balloon berries.
- Each player is assigned a spot marker, such as a rubber spot marker or a marker made with tape.
- The picture cards can be used to support play: happy, sad, kicking and throw and catch combination.

Preparation

- Blow up the balloons.
- Tie a long string to the inflated balloons.
- Make a loop at the end of the string that the player can hold.
- Arrange the floor marks in a circle.
- The players take their balloons and go to their assigned floor marks.



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How to play

The players are hares. The hares have discovered giant berries in the enchanted forest. They make the berries into a berry soup.

The soup is cooked as follows:

Play the Teeny-tiny Boogie Boots instrumental 2 audio recording.

When the music sounds happy (song in a major key):

- Hold the balloon string.
- Each player kicks their balloon towards the soup pot in the middle.
- Each player stays on their spot marker.

When the music sounds sad (song in a minor key):

- Each player holds their balloon.
- Each player then throws the balloon to the player on their left in a clockwise direction.
- At the same time, each player catches the balloon in mid-air on their right.
- Each player tries to stay on their spot marker.

The adult helps the players notice when the music changes from a major key to a minor key.

Adapting a task

Make the task easier

- During a sad part of the music (minor key), players do not throw their balloons to the player next to them - they throw their own balloon into the air and then catch it themselves.
- The players do not need to stay on their spot marker.

Make the task more challenging

- During a happy part of the music (major key), the players kick the balloon into the air to themselves, bouncing it back and forth between their right and left foot.

