Author: Rick Meana



Coaching Advisor

Topi US YOUTH SOCCER...

Topic: Receiving a bouncing ball

Age: 8-U

Lesson Plan

Activity Name	Description	Diagram	Coaching Points
1 WARM-UP Beg	Each player sitting down holds a ball over his or her shoelaces. Strike the ball and catch. Now twice and catch. Work up to a total of five kicks. Try both feet.	sports-graphics.com	 Eyes on the ball. Bend at the waist. Bend the knee of the kicking leg. Toe of the kicking foot out. Drive the knee of the kicking leg to the chest. Throw your ball up in the air, what happens if you close your eyes? Answer: You can't see where the ball is! Did it bounce away? Yes! So you need to have your eyes open so you can watch where the ball goes? Answer: Yes!
2 PAIR JUGGLING The players should divide themselves into pairs. One ball per pair.	Try to keep the ball off the ground using feet only. Two bounces between touches allowed. Score a point for seven consecutive touches. Alternate touches between the partners. See if you can get up to ten touches!	sports-graphics.com	 Eyes on the ball. Get into position early. Lift the ball with "laces." Use arms for balance. Try to catch it and not let it bounce without moving your feetwhat happened? Answer: It bounced and went away from me! What happens if you don't move your feet? Answer: I can't get to the ball before it bounces!

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Set up 15 yard X 15 yard grids. Two players and one ball in each grid.

Two players freely passing a ball inside the grid. Try to keep the ball in the air. The ball may not bounce more than twice before it is played. Count the passes inside the grid each pass is a point. Go for thirty seconds. Try to get more points than other pairs.



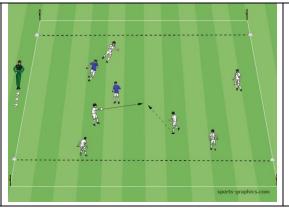
Age: 8-U

- Get in "line of flight" quick.
- Ready, balanced to receive.
- Choose "platform"/surface.
- Withdraw surface.
- Scoop/"spoon" ball with foot.
 - I saw you catch and drop the ball a couple of times; when you caught it did you just use your hands or did you use your whole body—Answer: my whole body—what parts? (many answers here eyes, feet, chest, stomach etc.)

4 GAELIC FOOTBALL

Mark out a 20-yard X 20 yard grid with a 5-yard end zone at each end.

6v2 (or 5v3) play volley-catch-volley. Volley ball from the hands so it can be caught by a teammate. If the defender intercepts the ball a point is scored. Try to play into the end zones for a point.

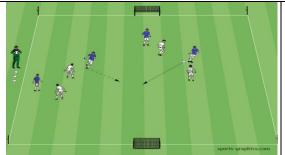


- Move to the ball.
- Support quickly.
- Move to open space.
- Imagine the ball is an egg and your body is hard like a table, what happens when the egg hits the table? Answer: it breaks! Imagine your feet are like sponges, can you "catch" the ball using your feet? Show me! How about your "head"? Your "thigh"? Show me!

5 THE GAME

4v4 to goal. Use a playing area of 40 yards X 30 yards with each goal 6 yards wide.

The coach is the 'Boss of the Balls'; toss a new ball in after a goal or when the ball goes out of play. Bonus point if control leads to possession or a goal.



- Look.
- Move to open space.
- Choose surface quickly.

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	■SOCCER ™ <u>Le</u>	esson Plan Suc i	R _™ Age: 8-U
6 COOLDOWN			
Each player with a ball.	Strike the ball up using foot, allow it to bounce and then strike it again. Go unyou are able to go through this series until ten consecutive times. Now try striking the ball two times (using any surface except the hands) allow it to bounce once, try to get to five consecutive touches before allowing it bounce. Get a drink and stretch.	il	Go and try it at home.