



# GOLDEN RULE PROJECT

Grade

K-3

4-6

Time

30-40  
minutes

Social  
Studies  
Core

## Balloon Hacky Sack

### Line of inquiry

How can we use cooperative skills to solve a problem?

**Grade range:** K-3 and also 4-6

**Group size:** This can be done with groups of 5-10

**Materials:** Medium-sized balloons, already blown up

**Time:** 30-40 minutes

**Skills:** Critical thinking skills, communication, cooperation

**Space:** Works best in a gym

**Directions:** Student groups will form circles and hold hands. The facilitator will toss a balloon into the air - above each group. The groups will have to keep the balloon in the air without ever letting go of each other's hands.

**Extensions:** There are many ways to keep this activity relevant. The balloon can symbolize a law and the group a committee trying to keep it alive, demonstrating how a bill becomes a law. Groups can compete against each other, with prizes or ribbons for the balloon longest in the air, or outlasting the other groups, etc.

**Reflection:** How did the circles need to cooperate to keep the balloon in the air? Were some people more involved than others? Do we see this in our community? If so, why might that be the case?

**Notes:** This is a fun activity that can be adapted for different groups and lessons

### Core Standards – Social Studies:

**K-3:** Thematic Strand: Citizenship Standard II-Objective 1: "Students will examine civic responsibility and demonstrate good citizenship." / **4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> Grade:** Core Standard: We are globally connected.