

## Tiddlywink Olympics

Last month I attended the ATSEL conference. One of the sessions I attended was called "Let MRU Ignite You". It included eight, five-minute presentations on ideas for teaching different concepts. One that I found especially appealing was called *Tiddlywink Olympics*, presented by Kore Grier. Kore used *tiddlywinks* to create a fun interactive environment to teach comparative, superlative and equative adverbs. So I take no credit for the information I am about to share with you.

All you need is:

- Masking tape,
  - Floor space, (or desks lined up in a row) and of course
  - Tiddlywinks (different colors for each team)
1. First, designate one or two people to be judges and explain that it is their job to pick out the winner of all the events as well as the best coach/fan.
  2. Then, divide the class into groups of 3 or 4. You need two competitors and one coach/fan for each group.
  3. Draw a chart such as this on the board. (Highlighted numbers are filled in as the games are completed)

### OLYMPICS!

	Team A	Team B	Team C	Team D
Race	First place	Fourth place	Second place	Third Place
Long Jump	Fourth	Second	Third	First
Relay	First	Third	Fourth	Second
Coach/Fan	Second (tie)	First	Second (tie)	Fourth

4. With the masking tape, mark a start line and a finish line on the carpet.

### **5. First event: Tiddlywink Races**

Hand out different colored tiddlywinks to the first competitor of each team. All players start the race at the same time. Players “jump” their discs to the finish line. *They do this by holding one disc in their hand and push on the edge of the other one so it jumps ahead.*

Record the race results on the chart: first, second, third, etc.

The judges determine who was “the best” coach/fan for this event. Don’t record these results on the chart yet.

### **6. Second event: Tiddlywink Long Jump**

See who can jump their tiddlywink the farthest.

Record the long jump results on the chart: first, second, third, etc.

The judges also determine who was “the best” coach/fan for this event. Don’t record the results on the chart yet.

### **7. Third event: Tiddlywink Relay**

Have the players of each team line up like a regular relay. Players take turns jumping the Tiddlywink from one person to the next all the way to the finish line.

Record the relay results on the chart: first, second, third, etc.

The judges also determine who was “the best” coach/fan for the entire competition. These results are recorded on the chart: first, second, third, etc.

8. Come up with vocabulary as a class

<u>Verbs</u>	<u>Adverbs</u>
raced	fast, quickly
jumped	far
coached	skillfully
cheered	loudly
competed	well

**Elicit grammar**

Comparative: A raced faster than B

Superlative: A raced the fastest.

Equative: B raced as fast as C

Negative Equative: C didn't race as fast as A

*Team C raced **faster** than Team A.*

*Team B raced **more** quickly than Team D.*

*Team C jumped **farther** than Team B.*

*Team A jumped the farthest.*

*Team A coached as well as Team C.*

For a more in-depth look at this and other ideas check out:

<http://intedpd.mtroyal.ca>