The Tower of Pizza

Aim
The tower represents health (it is a small scale version of the tower of Pisa). The aim is to get as many plastic puppets on the tower rings (the bottom rings will provide more stability than the upper rings). The rings to place the puppet on will be determined by a die. The die depicts food choices (vegetables, fruit, chocolate, cake). The healthier the diet, the more chance that the tower will remain standing while placing the puppets.

Numbers
Children: 4 per tower
Staff.helpers: 1 per tower

What is needed?

Borrowed materials
- 1-2 towers
- 23 puppets per tower
- 1 die per tower

Self-sourced
- Paper & Pen (score keeping is not essential for this game)

Setting up
1. Place the tower on a steady surface
2. Arrange the puppets and die on the table

Step-by-step instructions
1. Explain the symbol of the tower (standing tower=health; wobbly/falling tower=unhealthy/illness).
2. Explain the symbol of the dice. The die represents the foods eaten: fruit, vegetables, cake and chocolate.
3. Roll the die and determine the food 'to be eaten'.
4. Place a puppet on the ring that the die is indicating.
5. The next person rolls the die and places a puppet on the ring etc.
6. Try to get all the puppets on the tower without the puppets falling off. When a puppet falls off, the game has finished (if wanted, the number of puppets on each ring of the tower can be recorded on a score sheet*).
7. Discuss the results. Occasionally eating some chocolate or cake is OK, but our diet needs to consist of a large amount of fruit and vegetables in order to obtain a 'steady' health. Optionally (this requires recording of scores): Did the children discover a pattern? One die favours healthy foods (bottom two rings: fruit and vegetables), the other die favours the top two rings (cake/chocolate). The differences in dice are likely to result in different numbers of puppets on each tower before it fell over.

Supporting activities
While children wait to have a turn, they can count up the number of fruits, vegetables, cakes and chocolates they eat in a week. How balanced do they think their diet is?

Clearing up
- Fit the 23 puppets back in the plastic bag together with the die
- Put tower and puppet bag back in the cardboard box.
- Please fill in the evaluation form provided in the activity box and put on top of the activity when returning it. Your feedback will help us to improve our activities and the library. Thank you

What to return?
Please return any materials listed under ‘borrowed materials’. Please use the box/bag in which you received it. Arrange for a return date by phoning: 01223 748681.

Risk assessment
Additional risk assessment might be needed to cover local circumstances and environment. Please contact your (school) representative if in doubt.

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<th>Number</th>
<th>Risk</th>
<th>Control element</th>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Small parts</td>
<td>The die and the puppets are relatively small items that children could put in their mouth. This game is hence not suitable for three year olds and younger.</td>
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