

## Stepping up the "Game" in Physical Education

### Scrabblistic Unit—3–8

**Objectives:** Challenge students' throwing accuracy and spelling skills through the fast-paced game of Scrabblistic. In Scrabblistic, students will earn points in order to earn scrabble tiles, and in turn, stretch the students' minds by providing multiple opportunities to recall and practice spelling words. The combination of spelling fundamentals, exercise, memorization, and teamwork forces players to strategize while constantly earning tiles in order to spell words and earn as many points as possible.

**Equipment:** (Needs are based on a class of 36 students)

- Scrabble tile sets (2–4; Scrabble tile sets are recommended for their durability. Note: before purchasing sets, recommend asking colleagues and friends to donate any Scrabble games that they may have lying around their classrooms or houses. Also, consider what's in a typical Scrabble set to determine how many tile sets you will need for your classes. I recommend one set per 13–20 students. A game of Scrabble contains 100 letter tiles [see *Check the Code* for the complete letter tile distribution].)
- 5-gallon buckets (one up highers) (2)
- Trampolines, beams, or storage bins (4)
- Basketball goals (2 if available; set between 8' to 10')
- Optional: consider making alphabet sets on index cards, printing and laminating sets of letters or utilizing pre-printed alphabet cards or teaching tools.

**Procedures:** Before class arrives, place all Color-skimballs in the center of the gym and one trampoline in each corner of the gym. Next, place one 5-gallon bucket containing half of the Scrabble tiles at the center of the sideline and the other 5-gallon bucket containing the remaining Scrabble tiles at the opposite center sideline. Finally, place two hoops at one end of the gym and two hoops on the opposite end of the gym (see diagram for set up). The object of the game is for each team to throw balls to score as many goals as possible in order to earn Scrabble tiles. Their intention is to create more words than the opposing team.

Divide the class into two teams and send each team to opposite sides of the gym to sit down and wait further instructions. Provide a brief explanation