

GRASSROOTS WORKBOOK & PRACTICE PLANS



For coaches of U4 to U6 year-olds

**Ontario Soccer Association Grassroots Development** 



# <u>Active Start practice plan</u> <u>The OSA Player Development Model – The Station concept</u>



The activities provided illustrate how stations can being used during Grassroots practices. During the practice players will spend an allotted time at each station having fun, developing specific skills and qualities before moving onto the next station. By using station work we create an environment where players are continually motivated and that they are continually challenged.

In the following activities players will travel through 4 stations. In these examples one station focuses on Physical Literacy, two stations on movements with the ball and the 4th station is focused around the game with the children playing 1v1.

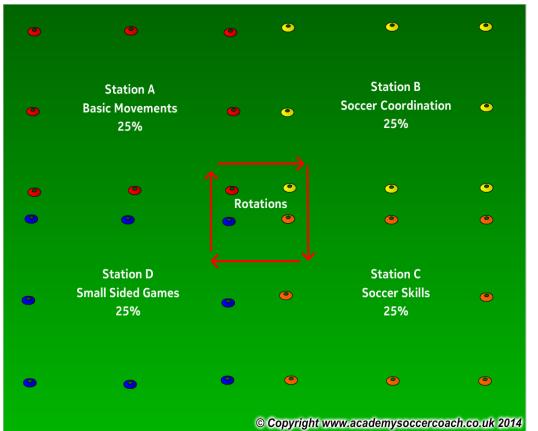
All sessions take a holistic approach to developing our youth. Each game and activity will focus on 4 main areas of the child's development; these include social/emotional, physical, physiological and also technical

Total Practice time 40 minutes as per the Recreational and Development Matrix



## Active Start practice plan How The OSA Player Development Model works





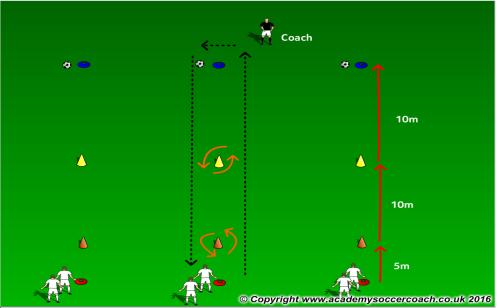
If working with a larger group organize players into groups of 6. Each station has a coach who will lead that specific station for the session. Players rotate every 8 minutes with a 2 minute break in between each station to have a water break and move to the next station.

If working with a smaller group you can still have the 4 stations and players will move together through all 4 stations until all are complete.

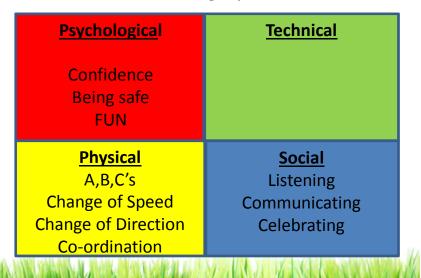


Active Start practice plan – Week 31 Station A General movement – Relay Races





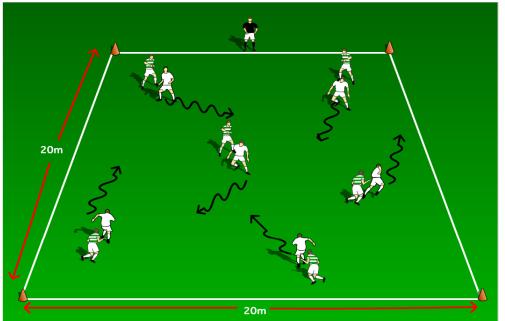
Organization: As shown above players are placed into pairs for the relay race. Procedure: Players start by lying flat on their belly. When the coach calls go, they sprint from the red cone to the orange cone. The player must then hop around 360 degrees on their right foot around the orange cone and then sprint to the yellow cone. At the yellow cone the player hops in their left foot around the cone and then sprints to the blue cone. At the blue cone the player does 10 toe taps and then sprints back to the start and gives their partner a high 5. Complete the circuit 3 times each and the first team sat down wins. Coaches can use their imaginations or ask the players to come up with how they relay race will work. <u>Time Frame. 8 minutes</u> <u>Emphasis:</u> Listening Changing direction Agility, Balance, Coordination Competition FUN!





## Active Start practice plan – Week 31 Station B Follow the leader





## <u>Time Frame. 8 minutes</u> <u>Emphasis:</u> Dribbling Change of speed/direction Co-ordination

FUN with your parents.

<u>Psychologica</u> l Confidence Being safe FUN	<u>Technical</u> Dribbling
Physical A,B,C's Change of Direction Change of Speed Co-ordination	<u>Social</u> Listening Communicating Celebrating

Organization: children are paired with their parent inside a 20m x 20m area. Procedure: The parent will start by being the leader and the child will be the

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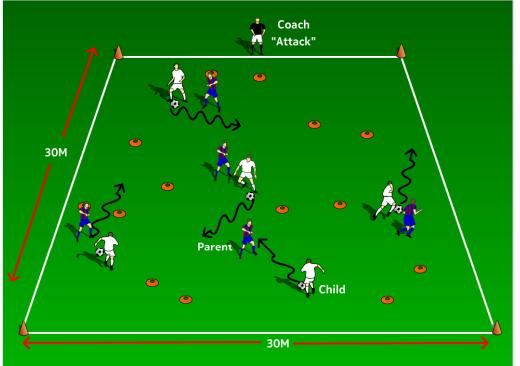
follower. The leader moves around the area changing speed and direction frequently. The follower will follow the leader and mimic everything the leader does. (The leader should be creative) Change roles regularly.

Encourage the players to use different movements such as walking, running, jumping, rolling, running backwards and also sideways. A soccer ball can also be added.



Active Start practice plan – Week 31 <u>Station C</u> <u>Soccer Technique – 1v1.</u>





**Psychological** 

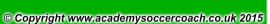
Confidence Being safe

**Physical** 

A,B,C's

**Change of direction** 

Change of speed



Organization: Players are paired with a parent inside a 30m x 30m area. Procedure: When the coach calls "Attack" the child with ball attempts to dribble through the gates. The parent without the ball becomes the defender. If the defender wins the ball he/she then becomes the attacker and vice versa. Players play for 1 minute and score a point every time they go through a gate. The child should always be the winner in the games. <u>Social</u> Competition Communicating Celebrating

**Technical** 

Dribbling

**Emphasis:** 

Changing direction

Agility, Balance, Coordination

**Competition vs Parents** 

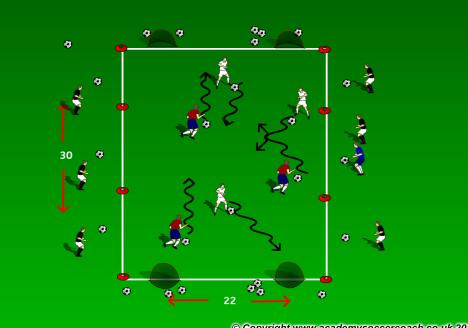
Imagination

FUN!



Active Start practice plan - Week 31 Station D Small sided game – All for one!





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Organization: Two teams of 3v3 are placed on to a 30 x 22 field with 1 or 2 goals at each end. Each player starts with a soccer ball. Spare balls are placed around the outside of the field. Parents stand on the outside of the field. Procedure: On the coaches call the game begins. Each player will play as an individual and the parent on the outside will count how many goals they score. Players can score in any goal. Once a player scores they get their ball or another ball and go to try to score in another goal. If a player is dribbling towards the side line a parent who is close will help them stay within the field. After an allotted time, collect the total amount of goals scored (Keep the game close and finish with a tie if possible)

#### Time Frame. 8 minutes

#### Emphasis:

Running with the ball Dribbling Imagination FUN!

Psychological Confidence Being safe FUN	<u>Technical</u> Dribbling Running with the ball Shooting	
Physical A,B,C's Change of Direction Speed	<u>Social</u> Listening Communicating Celebrating	