

# Kák'w Kooch'éit'aa Basketball

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## Nouns

Ball	Kooch'éit'aa
Basket	<u>K</u> ák'w
Hey Hole	Katíx'aa woolí
Tennis Shoes	Xwaasdáa téel

## Verb Phrases

Warm up	Nalt'aa i daagleeyi
Jump	Kei eeshk'éin
Run	Yaa gasheex
Stomp your feet	I x'oos naay toox
Shoot the basket	Shatsú wé <u>k</u> ákw
Guard	Yanyeeyék
Press them	Haas kanaaysheet'
Take it away	Dujeetax kanatí
Steal the ball from him	Dujeetax taaw
Pass the ball to your teammate	I xaax'oo keikaGeex" wé koojeit'aa
Dribble the basketball	At kanalt'aach wé kooch'éit'aa
Get yourselves in order	Yan yaxaaynaa <u>k</u> in
Practice / Get ready	Yanyeení
Go	Góok déi
Be confident	I duaayaxwan

## Instruction

Bring all students together and have them practice the first corner post of the Tlingit Educational System.

Use the term “**Listening (Kaa x'aduwa áxch)**” and have your students sit very quiet, still and become focused. Discipline is a component of success.



## **Application**

Take all the students through the nouns and phrases. Use graphics that depict the noun and graphics that depict the action/verb using the noun in a sentence. There are photos available online of the action of practicing and playing basketball.

Demonstrate the various positions and nouns in the gymnasium.

## **Relevancy of Basketball to Education...**

### **Abstract (Ch´a yeik´oo géink´)**

For thousands of years, the Tlingit people practiced their educational approach and methodology. The foundation is practiced in their traditional ceremonial parties and dedication of special events and objects.

### **Listening / Being Focused, Alert (Kaa x´aduwa áxch)**

The first corner post is that all human beings have a very unique ability to learn to listen for a purpose. This was taught before birth and after birth until the person learned this discipline. Listen to your parents, your grandparents, teachers and those in authority like your coach, teammates and your teacher.

### **Intelligence (Yaa kaduts´i géi)**

The second corner post is that all human beings are intelligent. Human beings can learn how to learn. Learning how to learn is an important part of learning. In western society, it is titled “motivation”. The realization of intelligence comes from learning how to listen, to pay attention, to be quiet and to be still in mind, body soul and spirit.

Recognize and accept the fact that you are an intelligent being. That your being has memory cells and when you make a good pass, your body having muscle memory will help you make good passes good shots, good defense, good offense and most of all teamwork!

### **Respect / Sportsmanship (Yaa át wuné)**

Respect is the cornerstone of the educational tribal house. To listen, pay attention, and to be quiet in mind, body, soul and spirit is the important step of respecting ones self. Respecting family, community and the environment is woven through all the traditions and customs of the Tlingit people.

Respect will help students to become good sports. They are to respect their opponent because if they don´t, it is possible that they will lose the game. Respecting their opponents means to acknowledge their good points on offense and learning their weaknesses on defense.



On offense it means to respect their teammates, compliment them, cheer them on and encourage them like acknowledging a play well done. To respect their teammates is also to help them when there are errors that keep on happening.

Most of all respect the referee at all times even when the referee makes a mistake. He/she is human and humans make errors.

Finally, respect means “practice and practice more” if you want to be good at basketball, math, science, geology, writing, reading and history you need to.

***DISCIPLINE* is the key to success in all that we do.**

### **Together /Teamwork (Wooch.éen)**

To work together is the primary purpose to gain knowledge and to help one another. This is true respect, honor and integrity.

All of the above is woven in the language, traditions, customs and practices of the Tlingit people which helped them settle in Southeast Alaska when there were no stores, phone, internet, etc. The corner posts and the foundation of the Tlingit Education System is documented and evidenced in Tlingit oral narratives.

Wooch.éen is the most powerful word in playing the game of basketball. Basketball is a team sport. If a person keeps the ball to himself/herself, this is not teamwork. If one person just shoots and shoots but does not pass the ball off to his/her teammate is not working together.

Making a good play to a teammate like making an assist which means passing the ball off to your teammate when he/she is open for a good shot is teamwork.

The team that works together will win together.

### **Conclusion**

Making basketball and the terminology in the game of basketball relevant to education and actually life is what the Traditional Elders and Educators would teach their children. This makes the game fun and enjoyable. Learning how to win and lose comes by listening, accepting intelligence, respect and teamwork.

Hooch áyá!

