Lucky dip

In this outdoor activity, children take a card from a lucky dip and read the instruction that tells them which action to use to move around a circle.

What you need
A set of laminated lucky dip cards from ‘Dip into words’ photocopiable page 19; bucket of polystyrene packing chips; chalk; laminator.

What to do
● Draw a large circle on a hard surfaced play area. Write START and draw an arrow to show the direction you want the children to follow around the circle. Hide the laminated lucky dip cards from the photocopiable sheet in the bucket of polystyrene chips and place in the centre of the circle.

Support and extension
● Limit the number of instruction cards for younger children and read the cards with them.
● Older children can make their own more detailed instruction cards, for example, Hop five times, Walk very slowly or Run fast and add these to the lucky dip for others to read.

Further activity

Early readers begin to read words with adult support.
More confident readers write their own instruction cards for others to read.

Go down the slide, Crawl through the tunnel, Walk along the beam. Award the children stickers such as, I can slide or I can balance, when they complete an activity.

Play link
Encourage the children to join in with action songs and rhymes, such as ‘Five Little Speckled Frogs’, ‘The Hokey-cokey’ or ‘Here We Go Round the Mulberry Bush’. (CD)

Home link
Leave a set of the lucky dip cards available for children to read to their parents or carers when they collect them from the setting.

Cross-curricular links
Stepping Stone
● Move in a range of ways, such as slithering, shuffling, rolling, crawling, walking, running, jumping, skipping, sliding and hopping. (PD)

Early Learning Goal
● Move with confidence, imagination and in safety. (PD)