## Year 4 Cricket Lesson 4 - Batting

**Learning objective:**
1. To learn the correct stance and grip for batting in cricket
2. To practise hitting the ball cleanly from a tee

(all) will be able to hold the cricket bat correctly with the proper stance
(most) will be able to hit the ball consistently from a batting tee
(some) will be able to hit a moving ball

### Lesson Structure

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Introduction/ warm up (Connection and Activation)</th>
<th>With timings</th>
<th>Differentiation (Extension/Support)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Cat(ch) and Mouse Tag</strong></td>
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<td>Extend:</td>
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</table>
| Divide the group into pairs, with one ball per pair and a cone in between partners. Spread pairs across the middle of the area, with enough space to turn and run behind them. On the coach's command, children will begin underarm throwing and catching (2 hands, fingers pointed to the ground, palms open) until the coach blows whistle/calls designated word. At this point, the child with the ball must turn and sprint away with their ball while their partner tries to chase and tag them. Add rolling/bouncing to vary challenge. | 10 mins | - HA pupils catch/throw with 1 hand  
- Make distance between HA pupils smaller  
| **Main (Development/ Application)**  |              | Support:                           |
| **Batting Grip:** to introduce the cricket bat, first demonstrate the correct grip and stance.  
- relaxed grip (not too tight) with dominant hand towards lower end of the grip, non-dominant at the top  
- 2 V-shapes made between the index finger and thumb.  
- Stance should be side on, looking over shoulder towards the bowler. (please see visual aids for further guidance). | 20 mins | - LA pupils can roll/bounce before attempting throwing and catching  
| **Activity 1: Clean striking**  |              | Extend:                             |
| Create groups of 3 or 4 with one bat, one batting tee, one windball/tennis ball per group. Set up 2 cones, roughly 15-20m apart and 15-20m away from the batsman. Children must practise a straight shot, aiming to hit the ball from the tee between the cones to score points. Fielders stand behind scoring zones to collect the ball for the batsman. Rotate roles until all group members have had a turn at batting. | 20 mins | - Create smaller scoring zone for HA pupils  
- Encourage fielders to bowl the ball for the batsman rather than using a tee  
| **Key Coaching Points:** eyes on ball, face of the bat pointing towards scoring zone. |              | Support:                           |

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### Activity 2: Caterpillar Cricket
For this game, set up as many areas as possible to minimise wait time for pupils. In each game, you need a set of stumps, one ball and a circle of cones set up in front of the stumps. The bowler bowls underarm to the batsman from 5-10m away, who hits the ball. At this point, the batting teams runs in a line (like a caterpillar) around the circle of cones until they get back to the start, where they must stand in a straight line as quickly as possible. At the same time, the fielding team must collect the ball and form a line behind the fielder with the ball. The first team to form a straight line wins the point for that round. If the fielding team catches the ball before it bounces, they automatically win the point. Each batsman has 3 tries at hitting the ball before they are out.

If you set up multiple games/areas, arrange teams by ability.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Extend:</th>
<th>20 mins</th>
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| - HA pupils can try catching/fielding with 1 hand when appropriate  
- Bowlers can bowl overarm to HA pupils when they are batting |

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<tr>
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<td>- Allow 1 bounce before catching for LA pupils when fielding</td>
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#### Plenary
1. What is the correct grip for a batsman in cricket?  
2. Can you show the person next to you the correct stance for a batsman?  
3. What can we do to make sure we make a clean contact with the ball?