

Cricket

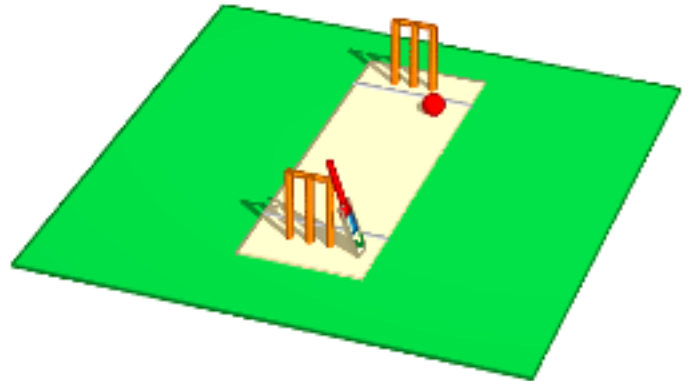
While cricket was not invented in India, it has become one of the most popular sports in the country. People all across India play the game, from professional cricket players to children. It is somewhat similar to baseball but has its own unique features.

Equipment:

- Bat (a cricket bat is a wider, flat version of a baseball bat)
- Ball (should be baseball or softball size)
- 6 “stumps” - three-foot long wooden dowels
- 4 “bails” - four-inch long wooden sticks

Setting up the field:

- Without a cricket field at your school, it may be easiest to forego the exact measurements of the entire field and instead focus on where most of the action happens.
- Two “wickets” will be on opposite ends of a rectangular playing area, known as the “pitch.” A wicket is a set of three wooden dowels with two bails resting on top.
- The wickets should be placed at a comfortable distance for kids to reach with a throw.



How to Play:

- The bowler throws the ball from one wicket to the other.
- The batter attempts to hit the ball before it knocks the wicket over. If the bowler knocks the wicket over, the batter is out. If the batter hits the ball, he or she runs to the opposite wicket to score one run.
- The fielders, dispersed around the pitch, first try to catch the ball in the air before it hits the ground (in which case, the batter is out). Or they will pick up the ball off the ground and throw it back to the bowler to touch the wicket before the batter arrives (in which case the batter is out).
- The batter is able to score as many runs as possible before the ball is thrown back to the wicket, by running back and forth between the wickets.
- When all batters on one team have hit, the teams switch places and the new batting team attempts to score more runs than the first team. The team with the most runs wins.

Watch a video on how to play cricket [here](#).