

Mastering Team Tactics with Max and Leo

Learning objective: To understand the importance of spatial awareness, teamwork, and tactical positioning in invasion games.

Follow the steps below to design your own team game pitch. Use your knowledge of movement and strategy to label your diagram accurately.

Draw: Draw a rectangular pitch viewed from above. Sketch Max the monkey and Leo the lion in the center. Add at least four other players positioned strategically across the pitch. Use arrows to show the direction of movement for two players who are running into 'space'. Add a goal at each end of the pitch. Use clear, neat lines and include labels from the word bank to explain the tactical formation.



Label words: Attacker · Defender · Passing Lane · Space · Goal Area · Tactical Formation · Intercept · Teammate

Steps:

1. Explain why it is more effective to pass the ball into an open space rather than directly to a teammate who is heavily marked by a defender.
2. Label your drawing to show where an 'Attacker' should move to create a new passing lane.
3. Justify your answer: Why do teams need a 'Defender' to stay near the goal area during an attack?

4. What might happen if all the players on a team crowded into one small corner of the pitch? Explain the impact on their gameplay.
5. Compare and contrast the role of an Attacker and a Defender in a fast-paced team game.
6. Draw a dotted line on your pitch to show a successful 'Passing Lane' that connects two teammates.