



Grip It and Rip It



photo courtesy PDGA Tour

Mini Fact:

The 2022 PDGA World Championships will take place Aug. 30-Sept. 3 in Emporia, Kansas.

When you think of golf, you probably first imagine a sport played with long clubs and a tiny white ball. But you may also have seen people playing disc golf, or Frisbee® golf.

This week, The Mini Page learns more about this competitive outdoor sport.

A new toy is born ...

In the late 1800s, the Frisbie Baking Co. sold pies in special tins. College students had fun eating the pies and then tossing around the empty tin pie plates.

After World War II, inventors created a toy plastic version of this pie plate. They sold the design to the toy company Wham-O®. The new toy was called a Pluto Platter because it looked like a flying saucer.

Wham-O changed the name to “Frisbee” in honor of the pie company.

A Wham-O employee, “Steady” Ed Headrick, redesigned the Frisbee so it was easier to throw and catch.



Ed Headrick

photo courtesy DGA

... and a new sport follows

People invented games with the new toy. Some tried to hit targets such as trees or trash cans with their Frisbees. Others sneaked onto golf courses to play with a Frisbee rather than a ball.

Headrick wrote the first official rules for disc golf. The sport was patterned after regular golf. Disc golf courses are usually nine or 18 holes. Players get one throw per turn.

The player whose disc lands the farthest from the hole gets the first throw of the next turn. The player with the lowest score, or fewest throws, wins.

On the course

Obstacles such as trees and hills add to the challenge of disc golf courses. Course managers might keep the underbrush mowed so players can get through. But disc golf courses do not need big areas of mowed, smooth green grass to play on.

A disc golf tee is usually a flat area or pad made of concrete, packed dirt or gravel. The golfer chooses a disc, then stands on the tee or runs up to it, throwing the disc as far as possible toward the basket.

A putt is the last of the throws. Putts are the throws made closest to the hole.

A putter disc would be most like a regular Frisbee, designed to fly shorter distances and with less force than other discs.



This disc golfer putts out on a hole during a tournament.

photo by Scott A. Holter

Disc golf players often volunteer to help build and care for a disc golf course themselves. This saves the community money, too.

You can also invent your own games. Many kids play disc games on playgrounds, in their backyards or on school grounds.

Golf discs

You can play disc golf with a regular Frisbee. But most disc golfers play with special discs. Different companies make them, so they aren't called Frisbees, which is a brand name.

Frisbee® is a registered trademark. You can tell by the small R in a circle next to it. It means that the name Frisbee belongs to a company.

Golf discs are made of harder plastic and have sharper edges than Frisbees. They are designed to fly more accurately and for longer distances. A golf disc can fly 17 to 20 miles per hour.

A better target

When people first started playing disc golf, they used a pole as the target. But players got into arguments about whether or not the disc had hit the pole.

Ed Headrick designed a “disc pole hole,” which was a special basket on a pole. This is the standard disc golf hole, or basket, used today.



Ed Headrick with his pole hole.

The chains on the pole slow the flying disc down so it will fall into the basket below.

Resources



On the Web:

- pdga.com/youth-and-education

At the library:

- “Fun and Games: Disc Golf” by Ben Nussbaum
- “Flip! How the Frisbee Took Flight” by Margaret Muirhead

Try 'n' Find

Words that remind us of disc golf are hidden in this puzzle. Some words are hidden backward or diagonally, and some letters are used twice. See if you can find:



BASKET, CATCH, CHAINS, COURSE, DISC, EDGE, FORCE, FRISBEE, GAME, GOLF, HILL, HOLE, OBSTACLE, PLASTIC, POLE, PUTT, RULES, TEE, THROW, TOY, TREE.

C H J E G P A E L O H T R E E
H I M F O R C E Y A O K V I R
K A T T L G D T F B E E T Y O
G L I S F F R I S B E E J R K
T E K S A B D T P M C P M U E
W O R H T L A U Y E H U E L C
H U A R J C P O F L A T G E A
H I L L L E T R O O I T D S T
N B Y E S R U O C P N E E L C
C S I D O Z I A N V S P K Y H

Cook's Corner

Blackberry Parfait

You'll need:

- 1 (1-ounce) package sugar-free instant vanilla pudding
- 2 cups low-fat milk
- 2 cups blackberries, washed and rinsed

- 3 tablespoons seedless blackberry preserves
- whipped dairy topping



* You'll need an adult's help with this recipe.

What to do:

- Make pudding according to package directions. Chill for 5 minutes until barely set.
- Place blackberries and preserves in a small saucepan; cook on medium heat for 5 minutes to combine preserves and fruit. Let cool.
- Spoon half of pudding evenly into 4 parfait dishes. Spoon 1/4 cup blackberry sauce on top. Layer with remaining pudding, then with blackberry sauce.
- Spoon whipped dairy topping as the final layer. Serves 4.

7 Little Words for Kids

Use the letters in the boxes to make a word with the same meaning as the clue. The numbers in parentheses represent the number of letters in the solution. Each letter combination can be used only once, but all letter combinations will be necessary to complete the puzzle.

- movie with Judy Hopps (8)_____
- not rough (6)_____
- where you wash your hands (4)_____
- round thing (6)_____
- it holds things together (5)_____
- smallest (5)_____
- demand (6)_____

IST	NK	TO	PAS
CLE	INS	LEA	PIA
ST	ZOO	SI	OTH
SMO	INS	TE	CIR

Answers: Zootopia, smooth, sink, circle, paste, least, insist.



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Mini Jokes



George: How you do learn to play disc golf?
Gina: You take a course!

Eco Note



Scientists have created tiny sensors that can be attached to the backs of monarch butterflies to track their migration. Millions of the colorful and threatened monarchs migrate each autumn to a cluster of mountain peaks in central Mexico's Michoacan state. The sensors store information during the migration until the butterflies arrive at specific checkpoints and their destinations, where the data can be collected wirelessly. The tiny devices do not interfere with the monarchs' flying ability or other normal activities.

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For later:

Check your newspaper for items about disc golf tournaments in your area.

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