

MATH CARDS

Ages 4 to 7 (Level 1)

Description:	Learners will make cards to play multiple games gaining a deeper sense of numbers, greater – lesser, addition – subtraction, sequences and patterns
Leading question:	Can you make your own card games?
Age group:	4 – 7 years
Subjects:	Math and Art
Total time required:	~5 hours over 5 days
Self-guided / Supervised activity:	Medium
Resources required:	Paper, Pens, Scissors and Colors

Day	Time	Activity and Description	
1		Learners will design their games including the playing cards and rules sheets. Please explain to learners that all games have their own rules that have to be followed	
	30 minutes	Learners will make their own cards, they will draw rectangular cards that are approximately the size of their palm. If they do not have a ruler, they can use any box cover or book to draw the lines and measure it based on the length of their index finger. The shorter side can be length of their thumb.	
		Learners will cut out 40 such cards. Learners will color each of the papers in one of 4 colors – they can chose any colors of their choice or do them in red, yellow, green and blue.	
		Older learners can calculate: If we have 40 cards and 4 colors and want an equal number of cards in each colors – how many cards will be in each color? (Hint: 40 / 4 = 10)	
		Younger learners can calculate: If we have 10 cards in yellow and an equal number of cards in each color – how many cards will we have in blue?	
		They will write the numbers $1 - 20$ on each of the cards in bold letters in the middle of each of the cards. Learners will make 2 cards with each of the numbers and make sure that no two numbers are on the same color card e.g. if there is a 3 in the yellow card, the other 3 should be on a blue card etc. Learners will design the other side of the card with a logo, name or initial.	
	15 minutes	Game 1: Snap Goal: Winning all the cards by quickly identifying matching cards Rules: (Older learners should write down their own rules sheet)	

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	 Step 1: Shuffle the cards and divide the cards equally between all the players Step 2: Each player opens a card from the deck each turn and this is laid open on the table Step 3: If the two cards have matching numbers the players will say snap, the first person to say snap will take all the open cards underneath If two cards of the same color are opened the players can say snap, and take the two matching color cards If there are no matching cards through the entire play, the game will be discarded and restarted The player with the most cards at the end will win the game Learners will play the game and write the score on a points sheet which has a column for each of the players with their initials / full name on it
15 minutes	 Learners will first play a memory game – in this game they will mix up all the cards and face the number side down. Older learners can calculate how many rows they want to arrange the cards in If you have a total of 40 cards and there are 20 cards in each row, how many rows will you have? Answer: 40 / 20 = 2. If you have a total of 40 cards and there are 10 cards in each row, how many rows will you have? Answer: 40 / 10 = 4. If you have a total of 40 cards and there are 8 cards in each row, how many rows will you have? Answer: 40 / 10 = 4. If you have a total of 40 cards and there are 5 cards in each row, how many rows will you have? Answer: 40 / 8 = 5 If you have a total of 40 cards and there are 5 cards in each row, how many rows will you have? Answer: 40 / 5 = 8 If you have a total of 40 cards and there are 2 cards in each row, how many rows will you have? Answer: 40 / 5 = 8
	 For younger learners, they can try two different set ups, the first time they will arrange the shuffled cards in 5 rows of 8 cards each and the second time they will arrange the shuffled cards in 8 rows of 5 cards each. Learners will make a points' sheet, with two columns. The first column they will write their initials or full name and the second column they will write the initials or full name and the second column they will write the initials or full name and the second column they mill write the initials or full name and the second column they will write the initials or full name of whoever they are playing against (e.g. their parent). Goal: Get as many points as possible by remembering and opening the correct matching card numbers.
	 Rules: (Older learners can make a rules sheet) Step 1: Player 1 opens one card, Step 2: Player 1 opens another card. Step 3: If the 2 cards are the same matching number they can take the cards out of the rows and they get 2 points in their column

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	 If the 2 cards have a matching color but not a matching number, they get 1 point in their column and can close the cards putting them back in the same place in the arrangement If the 2 cards are not the matching number or color, they get no points and just close the cards in the arrangement Step 4: Player 2 opens one card, Step 5: Player 2 opens another card Learners will add the number of points in both columns and whoever has more points is the winner of the game
	Learners will design two new games to understand the concept of greater and
	smaller than numbers
20	Game 3: Greater Alligator
minutes	Goal: Getting the most points after 5 rounds by having the highest card (a card with the highest number) - (a variation of the same game can be played for the winner being the one with the smallest card) Rules: (Older learners should write down their own rules sheet) - Step 1: Shuffle the cards and deal 2 cards per player - Step 2: Each player will play their highest card and the person with the
	 Step 2. Each player will play their highest card and the person with the highest card has won e.g. Player 1 has 3, 12 and Player 2 has 4, 8, and Player 3 has 9, 20 then player 3 is the winner for having the card 20 If two players have the same high card, they both get to play their next highest card and whoever's second card is the highest will win The winner of each round gets 2 points and the final winner is the one that has the most points at the end of 5 rounds
	Learners will play the game and write the score on a points sheet which has a column for each of the players with their initials / full name on it
	Learners will also write the numbers using the greater than sign for each of the rounds for the 3 cards played e.g. 20 greater than 12 greater than 8
20 minutes	 Game 4: Larger Numbers Goal: Getting the most points after 5 rounds by having the largest sum in their cards Rules: (Older learners should write down their own rules sheet) Step 1: Shuffle the cards and deal 3 cards per player Step 2: Each player will add the numbers dealt with their cards Step 3: Players will each say the total number and the highest number will win If two players have the same high number, they will each pick up one more card from the deck and add that to the sum and whoever has the highest total will win Example: Player 1 has 4, 11, 16 and Player 2 has 16, 9, 2 – so Player 1's total is 31 and Player 2's total is 27 so Player 1 wins the game
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		- The winner of each round gets 2 points and the final winner is the one that has the most points at the end of 5 rounds
		Learners will play the game and write the score on a points sheet which has a column for each of the players with their initials / full name on it
		 Learners will also write the 3 sums for each of the rounds for the 3 cards played e.g. Player 1: 4 + 11 + 16 = 31 Player 2: 16 + 9 + 2 = 27
		- Final: 31 is greater than 27
	20	Game 5: Closest Number
	minutes	Goal: Getting the most points after 3 to 5 rounds by having the total number closest to the open card (a variation of the same game can be played for the winner being the one with the further number)
		Rules: (Older learners should write down their own rules sheet) Step 1: Shuffle the cards and deal 3 cards per player
		 Step 2: Each player will add the numbers on the cards that were dealt to them e.g. if Player 1 gets 4, 11, 16 (4+11+16=31) with their cards Step 3: Pick a random card from the deck lay this card open on the table, whichever player has a number that is closest to the opened number wins
		 the game If two players have the same high number, they will each pick up one more card from the deck and add that to the sum and whoever has the highest total will win
		 Example: Player 1's total is 31 and Player 2's total is 27 – if the card opened if 17 then Player 2 wins
		- The winner of each round gets 2 points and the final winner is the one that has the most points at the end of 5 rounds
		Learners will play the game and write the score on a points sheet which has a column for each of the players with their initials / full name on it
		 Learners will also write the 4 sums for each of the rounds for the 3 cards played e.g. Player 1: 4 + 11 + 16 = 31 Player 2: 16 + 9 + 2 = 27
		- Comparison: 27 – 17 = 10 and 31 – 17 = 14
3		 Final: 14 is greater than 10 so 10 is the winner since it is closer Learners will continue to explore subtraction and sequences
	20 minutes	Game 6: Smaller Numbers Goal: Getting the most points after 5 rounds by having the largest sum in their cards
		Rules: (Older learners should write down their own rules sheet) - Step 1: Shuffle the cards and deal 2 (for younger learners) or 3 (for older learners) cards per player



	 Step 2: Each player will subtract the numbers written on the cards they were dealt e.g. younger players will minus card 1 from card 2 and older players will minus card 1 from card 2 from card 3 Step 3: Players will each say the total number and the highest number will win If two players have the same high number, they will each pick up one more card from the deck and subtract that to the sum and whoever has the highest total will win Example: Player 1 has 4, 11, 16 and Player 2 has 16, 9, 2 – so Player 1's total is 16 – 11 – 4 = 1 and Player 2's total is 16 – 9 – 2 = 5 so Player 2 wins the game The winner of each round gets 2 points and the final winner is the one that has the most points at the end of 5 rounds Learners will play the game and write the score on a points sheet which has a column for each of the players with their initials / full name on it Learners will also write the 3 mathematical function for each of the rounds for the 3 cards played e.g. Player 1: 16 – 11 – 4 = 1 Player 2: 16 – 9 – 2 = 5
	- Final: 5 is greater than 1
20 minutes	Game 7: Getting Close Goal: Getting the most points after 5 rounds by having the total number closest to
	the open card (a variation of the same game can be played for the winner being the one with the further number)
	Rules: (Older learners should write down their own rules sheet)
	 Step 1: Shuffle the cards and deal 3 cards per player
	 Step 2: Each player will subtract the numbers written on the cards they were dealt
	 Step 3: Pick a random card from the deck and open this, whichever player has a number that is closest to the opened number wins the game If two players have the same answer, they will each pick up one more card from the closest to advise some has the closest purchased and the same answer.
	 from the deck and subtract and whoever has the closest number will win Example: Player 1 has 4, 11, 16 and Player 2 has 16, 9, 2 – so Player 1's total is 16 – 11 – 4 = 1 and Player 2's total is 16 – 9 – 2 = 5 so if the card 12 is opened - Player 2 wins the game
	 The winner of each round gets 2 points and the final winner is the one that has the most points at the end of 5 rounds
	Learners will play the game and write the score on a points sheet which has a column for each of the players with their initials / full name on it
	Learners will also write the 4 mathematical function for each of the rounds for the 3 cards played e.g.



		 Player 1: 16 – 11 – 4 = 1 	
		- Player 2: 16 – 9 – 2 = 5	
		 Comparison: 12 - 1 = 11 and 12 - 5 = 7 	
		- Final: 11 is greater than 7 so 7 is the winner since it is closer	
	20	Game 8: Sequence	
	minutes	Goal: Getting the most points after 5 rounds by making sequences of numbers	
		Rules: (Older learners should write down their own rules sheet)	
		- Step 1: Shuffle the cards and deal 3 cards to each player and keep the others	
		as a closed deck	
		- Step 2: Players will each have a turn where they get to either pick up a card	
		either from the deck or the discarded pile and they also discard a card	
		- The player who is the first to get a sequence will win the game e.g. 1, 2, 3 or	
		11, 12, 13	
		- Variation: For older learners an extension can be to design a pattern of your	
		choice e.g. odd-even numbers (2, 8, 14 or 3, 11, 15); a pattern of the 2, 3, 4,	
	5 times multiplication table (2, 4, 6 or 4, 8, 12 or 10, 15, 20); a pattern the		
		has a difference of 6 between the numbers (2, 8, 14) etc.	
		Learners will play the game and write the score on a points sheet which has a	
		column for each of the players with their initials / full name on it	
		Learners will also write the entire numerical sequence and / or the pattern that they	
		decided	
4		Learners will explore the multiplication, division operations and explore patterns of	
		their own choice	
	20	Game 9: Multiply Quick	
	minutes	Goal: Getting the most points after 5 rounds by having the largest total number after	
		multiplying the number	
		Rules: (Older learners should write down their own rules sheet)	
		- Step 1: Shuffle the cards from 1 - 10 and deal 2 or 3 cards per player (only	
		deal 2 cards for younger learners)	
		- Step 2: Each player will multiply the numbers dealt with their cards	
		- Step 3: Player will call out the number they have quickly and the player with	
		the highest number will win	
		 If two players have the same answer, they will each pick up one more card from the deck and multiply that too 	
		- Example: Player 1 has 4 and 2 and Player 2 has 6 and 3 – so Player 1's total	
		is $4x^2 = 8$ and Player 2's total is $6x^3 = 18$ so Player 2 wins the game since 18	
		is greater than 8	
		- The winner of each round gets 2 points and the final winner is the one that	
		has the most points at the end of 5 rounds	
		Learners will play the game and write the score on a points sheet which has a	
		column for each of the players with their initials / full name on it	

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	 Learners will also write the 3 mathematical function for each of the rounds for the 3 cards played e.g. Player 1: 4x2 = 8 Player 2: 6x3 = 18 Final: 18 is greater than 8
20 minutes	 Extension: Game 10: Full Division Goal: Getting the most points after 5 rounds by finding perfectly divisible numbers Rules: (Older learners should write down their own rules sheet) Step 1: Shuffle the cards of the numbers from 1 - 10 and deal 1 card per player Step 2: Keep the deck of cards of the numbers from 10 - 20 and open one card from this deck Step 3: Players will check if the number from the deck can be divided by the card the player has to give a whole number (i.e. not a decimal / fraction) then the player gets 2 points. If both players have the right card, they both get 2 points. If neither of the players has such a card, the players will discard the card and play again Example: Number opened is 14, Player 1 has the card 7 and Player 2 has the card 3 so 14 / 7 = 2 and 14 / 3 = 4.66, so player 1 gets 2 points
20 minutes	Learners will play the game and write the score on a points sheet which has a column for each of the players with their initials / full name on it Learners will also write the 2 mathematical function for each of the rounds for the 3 cards played e.g. Player 1: 14 / 7 = 2 Player 2: 14 / 3 = 4.66 Game 11: Patterns Goal: Getting the most points after 5 rounds by making patterns with the numbers Rules: (Older learners should write down their own rules sheet) Step 1: Shuffle the cards and deal 3 cards to each player and keep the others as a closed deck Step 2: Players will each have a turn where they get to either pick up a card
	 either from the deck or the discarded pile and they also discard a card The player who is the first to get a pattern will win the game, the design pattern is the learners choice e.g. odd-even numbers (2, 8, 14 or 3, 11, 15); a pattern of the 2, 3, 4, 5 times multiplication table (2, 4, 6 or 4, 8, 12 or 10, 15, 20); a pattern that has a difference of 6 between the numbers (2, 8, 14) etc.

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		Learners will play the game and write the score on a points sheet which has a column for each of the players with their initials / full name on it	
		countries each of the players with their initials / full hame of it	
		Learners will also write the pattern that they decided	
5		Learners will play a literacy game to expand their vocabulary and help with their	
		spelling, they will then design a game of their own choice	
	20	Literacy Extension: Leaners can make additional cards for each of the alphabets or	
	minutes	for each diagraphs (sh, wh, th, ph) or for some consonant-vowel-consonant endings	
		(ad, an, am, at, in, en etc.)	
	20	Game 12: Fastest Words	
	minutes	Goal: Getting the most points after 5 rounds for whichever player can make the	
		most number of words with the chosen card in 30 seconds	
		Rules: (Older learners should write down their own rules sheet) - Step 1: Keep a closed deck of the alphabet, diagraph and CVC word ending	
		sounds suggested cards in the appendix	
		- Step 2: Learners will pick a card and they will have 30 seconds to name the	
		most number of words with that letter / diagraph / CVC word ending. Example: If the letter J is picked up, player 1 can say words like: Juice, Just,	
		Jump, Jelly etc. if the diagraph "Ph" is picked up by player 1 they can say:	
		Phone, Phonics, Photo etc. if the CVC word ending "an" is picked up by	
		Player 1 they can say words like: Can, Man, Ran, Fan, Pan etc.	
		 Step 3: Players get a point for each of the words said and add the points at the end of the game and the player with the most points would win 	
		the chu of the game and the player with the most points would will	
		Learners will play the game and write the score on a points' sheet which has a	
		column for each of the players with their initials / full name on it. Players will get 1 point for each word. After each turn the learners will write the number of points on	
		the points sheet	
		After each turn older learners can write the words said	
		Learners will add the total points per player at the end of each of the turns of play	
		and the one who has the maximum number is the winner	
	20	Learners will now design their own cards game using the number or letter cards	
	20 minutes	Learners will now design their own cards game using the number or letter cards – they get a chance to give their game a name, a goal and make up their own rules.	
		Learners will then play the game with their family and the family players can chose	
		which of the games they liked the most	
Διτρ	sment	 Clarity of the numbers and alphabet cards made Grasp of the rules of the game 	
Assessment Criteria:		- Ability to play the games and apply the functions of memory, greater / smaller	
		than, proximity, addition-subtraction-multiplication-division and patterns	



Learning outcomes:	- Deeper number sense and ability to understand the numbers
	from 1 – 20 in sequence
	- Understanding and applying the basic arithmetical functions
	- Following game behavior including taking turns, rules and goals
Required previous learning:	Writing numbers and doing addition / subtraction functions
Inspiration:	Traditional games of snap, sequence and memory
Additional enrichment activities:	- Learners can deal additional cards for all the games
	- Learners can create the deck up to the number 50 to make the
	numbers more challenging
	- Learners can develop more games with patterns
Modifications to simplify the	- Learners can develop a deck of cards only for the numbers from
project tasks if need be	1 – 10 to simplify the game
	- Learners not familiar with multiplication and division functions
	can omit the day 4 games.
	- Learners can chose only 2 cards for the addition and subtraction
	functions

APPENDIX

Language game cards:

- Cards for the alphabet letters: A, B, R, D, H, M, N, P, S, T, V, C, E, F, L
- Cards for the CVCV words: At (e.g. Cat), Ag (e.g. Bag), Ap (e.g. Nap), En (e.g. Men), Et (e.g. Get), It (e.g. Fit), Op (e.g. Top), On (e.g. Con), Ug (e.g. Rug), Un (e.g. Fun)
- Cards for the diagraphs: Ph (e.g. Phone) Wh (e.g. What), Th (e.g. This), Sh (e.g. Show), Ch (e.g. Chat)