

What's Out There?

Math Fun



Did you know that you use math every day? When you count money, or measure your height and weight, or tell time, you are using math. *You must complete four of these activities to earn this Try-It.*

1. **My Numbers**

Numbers are used to tell many things about you. How many toes do you have? How tall are you? How old are you? Make a “My Numbers” poster that tells all your important numbers facts.

2. **Telling Time**

Today, we have clocks with minute and hour hands and digital clocks (clocks that use numbers) too. People have been discovering ways to tell time for thousands of years. One invention was an hourglass. You can learn how to make your own hourglass.

You will need: Two 1-liter clear plastic bottles with caps, sand or table salt, package tape, a nail, a clock.

To make your hourglass:

- 1) Fill one of the bottles with sand.
- 2) Use the nail to make a small hole in each bottle cap. Ask an adult to help.
- 3) Screw the caps on the bottle with sand and the empty bottle.
- 4) Place the empty bottle on top of the bottle with sand. The empty bottle should be upside down so the caps of both bottles are touching. Tape both bottles tightly so they are joined.
- 5) Turn the bottles over so the bottle with sand is on top. Look at your clock. How long does it take for all the sand to move from the top bottle to the bottom bottle? How can you change the amount of time that your hourglass tells? Think of some games you can play using your hourglass as a timer.

3. **Can You Guess?**

Find out how well your friends and family can guess amounts. Find a large jar with a lid. Fill it with seeds, beans, or marbles. Count each one as you fill the jar. Have at least five people guess the number of objects that are in the jar. Record their guesses and ask how they made them. Let them pick up the jar if they wish. Did anyone make a close guess?

Now it's your turn to guess amounts. Have a friend fill the jar with something different. Try to guess the amount.

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4. **Alphabet Code**

Make up your own secret code. Write down the letters of the alphabet. Next to each letter put a different number from 1 to 26. You don't have to write the numbers in order. Use your code to send a secret message to a friend who knows the code.

Budget For Your Troop

5. When you or your troop plan an activity, you will usually need some money. Find out how much is in your troop fund. Then plan for two activities you would like to do. For example, a troop wanted to visit the zoo. They figured out what all the costs would be. Then they multiplied each cost (entrance fee, lunch, etc.) by how many girls were going. To come up with the grand total for the troop, they added the amount of money needed for each activity to find out if they had enough money in the troop fund.

Money Words

Give a dollar value to each letter of the alphabet. For example, A=1¢, B=2 , C=3, and so on.

6. Then add up the cents that are in the letters of your first name.

What's the most expensive word or name you can think of? Find as many words as you can that add up to \$1.

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