

Great Classroom Idea



Grade level: 1-7

Subject (if applicable): Mathematics

Please check all that apply:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> lesson plan | <input type="checkbox"/> project-based teaching/activity idea |
| <input type="checkbox"/> technology integration idea | <input type="checkbox"/> graphic organizer |
| <input type="checkbox"/> integration of faith and learning idea | <input type="checkbox"/> webquest |
| <input type="checkbox"/> classroom management technique | <input type="checkbox"/> virtual field trip |
| <input type="checkbox"/> devotional | <input type="checkbox"/> bulletin board idea |
| <input type="checkbox"/> science demo or experiment | <input type="checkbox"/> critical thinking strategy |
| <input type="checkbox"/> assessment tool | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original classroom game |
| <input type="checkbox"/> relationship-building idea | <input type="checkbox"/> other: _____ |

Description: (attach supplementary materials if needed)

The game is called "Math Ball." What you need is a regular playground ball and a permanent Sharpie marker. With the Sharpie, write randomly placed numbers all over the ball. The numbers should be placed about 3 cm apart.

To play the game, gather the students into a circle of about 10 people. If you have larger classes, create two circles and buy a second "math ball."

Play the game by having a student gently throw the ball to another student. The student catches the ball and then adds or multiplies, etc., the numbers closest to their thumbs. To subtract, the student would take the larger of the two numbers and subtract the smaller. To divide, take the larger number and divide it by the smaller. If the numbers do not work evenly, use (or find) the number(s) closest to the two numbers that can be divided easily.

I have always had the students say the two numbers they are working with out loud, and if the student is struggling to come up with the answer, other students can assist them.

Submitted by: Chris Dupuis

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