

# Number Game

This activity was developed by Stuart Scott with Francis Fey and Dominique Moore from May Park School in Bristol.

The webaddress for this activity is:

<<http://www.collaborativelearning.org/numbergame.pdf>>

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## COLLABORATIVE LEARNING PROJECT

Project Director: Stuart Scott

Supporting a cooperative network of teaching professionals throughout the European Union to develop and disseminate accessible teaching materials in all subject areas and for all ages.

17, Barford Street, Islington, London N1 0QB UK Phone: 0044 (0)20 7226 8885 Fax: 0044 (0)20 7704 1350

Website: <http://www.collaborativelearning.org>

## BRIEF SUMMARY OF BASIC PRINCIPLES BEHIND OUR TEACHING ACTIVITIES:

The project is a teacher network, and a non-profit making educational trust. Our main aim is to develop and disseminate classroom tested examples of effective group strategies across all phases and subjects. We hope they will inspire you to use similar strategies in other topics and curriculum areas. We run teacher workshops, swapshops and conferences throughout the European Union. The project publishes a catalogue of activities plus lists in selected subject areas, and a newsletter available by post or internet: "PAPERCLIP".

\*These activities were influenced by current thinking about the role of language in learning. They are designed to help children learn through talk and active learning in small groups. They work best in mixed classes where children in need of language or learning support are integrated. They are well suited for the development of speaking and listening. They provide teachers opportunities for assessment of speaking and listening and other formative assessment.

\*They support differentiation by placing a high value on what children can offer to each other on a particular topic, and also give children the chance to respect each other's views and formulate shared opinions which they can disseminate to peers. By helping them to take ideas and abstract concepts, discuss, paraphrase and move them about physically, they help to develop thinking skills.

\*They give children the opportunity to participate in their own words and language in their own time without pressure. Many activities can be tried out in mother tongue and afterwards in English. A growing number of activities are available in more than one language, not translated, but mixed, so that you may need more than one language to complete the activity.

\*They encourage study skills in context, and should therefore be used with a range of appropriate information books which are preferably within reach in the classroom.

\*They are generally adaptable over a wide age range because children can bring their own knowledge to an activity and refer to books at an appropriate level. The activities work like catalysts.

\*All project activities were planned and developed by teachers working together, and the main reason they are disseminated is to encourage teachers to work effectively with each other inside and outside the classroom. They have made it possible for mainstream and language and learning support teachers to share an equal role in curriculum delivery. They should be adapted to local conditions. In order to help us keep pace with curriculum changes, please send any new or revised activities back to the project, so that we can add them to our lists of materials.

# Number Game

This snakes and ladders board game draws heavily on an excellent resource "Numbers: facts, figures and fiction" by Richard Phillips Cambridge University Press 1994 ISBN 0 521 46481 1. It will be a much more successful game if this book and/or any similar one is available for reference. Our main aim is to encourage you and your students to produce your own versions of this kind of activity, and in the process of doing so to investigate a selection of books about number.

The idea here is that you go around and up and down the snakes and ladders board, and you either acquire some interesting information or you are set a problem to solve.

You will need to mount the two A4 sheets (for a simpler game you can use only one sheet, since we have not numbered the squares so that you can do it) on a baseboard and enlarge them if you prefer. There is at the moment some repetition of information when you use both boards. You will of course need to draw in as many snakes and ladders as you need or desire. You can of course work with your students to come up with better information and more ingenious problems. Please send any successful versions back to us.

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# Number Snakes and Ladders Board.

Well done you are a number expert! ←	Pachisi is a Hindi word for 25, and one of the national games of India.	Zero did not exist in Europe until 780AD when Arabic numerals began to be used.	The Cyclops had one eye. ←
In old British money an angel was worth 120 pence. →	To find out if a number can be divided by nine, add up its digits.	Babylon had a number system based on 60.	French and Irish numbers count in twenties. eg: 20 fiche 40 da fiche
When you are 16 you can leave school. What else can you do?	In the United States of America there is never a 13th floor in a building.	Try dividing six by zero on the calculator. What happens? ←	There are 88 keys on the piano. 88 is the sixth number that looks the same upside down.
Intercity 125 trains travel 125 miles per hour. →	King Arthur had a table that 150 knights sat around. How big would it be?	100 degrees is the boiling point of water.	The letters A E and M have one line of symmetry. Find another letter like these.
The most famous bus is the 73.	With just nine cuts a potato can be split in 93 pieces.	How many ways can you split up 60?	If you celebrate your 114th birthday today in which year were you born? ←
The Cambodian alphabet has 72 letters. The Bayeux tapestry has 72 scenes. →	Eleven is the fourth number that stays the same written upside down. Can you find the next one?	Television is transmitted at 25 pictures per second. Jurassic Park has 188 880 pictures.	There are four seasons, four elements and four points on a compass.
The United States flag has fifty stars.	How many days of Christmas? How many eggs in a dozen? How many signs of the zodiac?	You can become a member of parliaments when you are twenty one.	A crab has ten legs. So do shrimps and lobsters. ←
START HERE IF YOU WANT TO BE A NUMBER EXPERT →	49ers took part in the 1849 gold rush.	Human beings have 46 chromosomes in their body: 23 from mum and 23 from dad.	149 rabbits are eating in a field. A farmer shoots one. How many left in the field?

H, Y and K are made of three lines. Can you name three others?	In Hong Kong 38 is a very lucky number because 3 means life and 8 means wealth.	The Romans wrote a hundred as C. A ton means 100 miles an hour.	A total eclipse of the moon lasts 104 minutes
In Indian myth the earth sits on the back of eight elephants.	Babies grow 20 teeth.	Many things come in fives. Five senses and five ?? Can you think of one?	French numbers sometimes count in twenties. eg: 80 = quatre vingts
In Noah's flood the rain fell for 40 days and 40 nights.	The woodlouse has fourteen legs.	As I was going to St Ives, I met a man with seven wives, Each wife had seven sacks, Each sack had seven cats, Each cat had seven kits: Kits, cats, sacks and wives, How many were going to St Ives?	Try counting to 12 using all the joints in your fingers.
Intercity 125 trains travel 125 miles per hour.	King Arthur had a table that 150 knights sat around. How big would it be?	Puck went round the earth in 40 minutes. 12756 km. How fast would he go?	Twenty is the name of a village in Lincolnshire.
Name one of the seven wonders of the ancient world.	With just nine cuts a potato can be split in 93 pieces.	How many ways can you split up 60?	The letter H has two lines of symmetry. Find another letter like this.
The Cambodian alphabet has 72 letters. The Bayeux tapestry has 72 scenes.	Eleven is the fourth number that stays the same written upside down. Can you find the next one?	Television is transmitted at 25 pictures per second. Jurassic Park has 188 880 pictures.	There are four seasons, four elements and four points on a compass.
The United States flag has fifty stars. There is one for each state.	How many days of Christmas? How many eggs in a dozen? How many signs of the zodiac?	You can become a member of parliaments when you are twenty one.	A crab has ten legs. So do shrimps and lobsters.
49ers took part in the 1849 gold rush.	Seven for the seven stars in the sky. What does this refer to?	Human beings have 46 chromosomes in their body: 23 from mum and 23 from dad.	How many black squares on a chess board?