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Introduction



Packed with hundreds of quick tips, fun ideas, and reproducibles, the *Fast Ideas for Busy Teachers: Math* series provides a wonderful resource designed to make a busy teacher's life easier. Ideas for stocking and organizing your math learning center, individual and group activities, games, reproducibles, patterns, puzzles, explorations of concepts, and much more invite students to learn about math through creative and fun hands-on activities.

Fast Ideas for Busy Teachers: Math supplements your math curriculum with warm-up or follow-up exercises, take-home pages, in-class assignments, and rainy-day activities to help students master a variety of mathematical concepts and skills. Organization by content related to various math skills makes it quick and easy to find the material you need, when you need it. A wide variety of open-ended material allows you to adapt activities to meet the specific needs of your class or individual students. Watch enthusiasm for math grow as students discover how valuable and fun learning math can be!

Teacher resource pages include organizational tips, suggestions for manipulatives, patterns, and a variety of individual, partner, and small group activities designed to increase students' understanding of math. Preparation time and supplies needed are minimal and include items normally available in classrooms.

Fast Ideas for Busy Teachers: Math topics and skill areas are based on the current NCTM Principles and Standards for School Mathematics, designed by the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics. They include number and operations; algebra; geometry; measurement; and data analysis and probability skills through problem-solving strategies, reasoning and proof, mathematical connections, representations, and communications. For specific information, see the matrix showing the correlation of the activities and tips to the NCTM Standards.

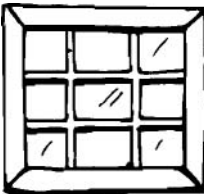

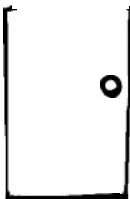
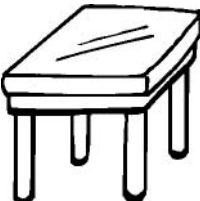




Fast Ideas for Busy Teachers: Math allows you to plan creative, motivating activities and incorporate them in your math curriculum. Best of all, students' enthusiasm for math grows when math becomes an adventure of fun and discovery!

Count Around Your Home.....

Look at the items below. How many of each do you have at home?

First, write your guess. Then take your paper home.

Count the items at home to check each guess.

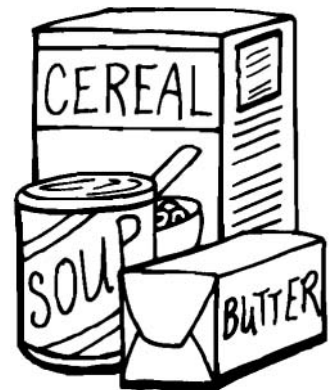
<p>How many windows?</p> <p>Guess _____</p> <p>Check _____</p> 	<p>How many beds?</p> <p>Guess _____</p> <p>Check _____</p> 
<p>How many doors?</p> <p>Guess _____</p> <p>Check _____</p> 	<p>How many tables?</p> <p>Guess _____</p> <p>Check _____</p> 
<p>How many phones?</p> <p>Guess _____</p> <p>Check _____</p> 	<p>How many chairs?</p> <p>Guess _____</p> <p>Check _____</p> 
<p>How many lamps?</p> <p>Guess _____</p> <p>Check _____</p> 	<p>How many clocks?</p> <p>Guess _____</p> <p>Check _____</p> 

More or Less Than a Pound?.....

Look in your kitchen for foods that come in packages.
Read the weight on the label.

1. Find a food item that weighs one pound.

Draw it and label the picture.



2. Find one food item that you think weighs more than one pound.

Draw it and label the picture.

Check the label. How much does it weigh? _____

Did you guess correctly? _____