

Subtraction Bowling

Purpose & SOL

- Students will practice the concept of subtraction by bowling a ball, knocking down cups, and creating a subtraction equation.
- Math K.6, 1.7b

Materials

- Dixie cups or solo cups (10 per pair).
- Tennis balls or bouncy balls (1 per pair).
- Subtraction Bowling recording sheet and clipboard.
- One cone per pair to use as their starting point.

Introduction

The teacher will solve human subtraction problems with the class. Invite 8 students to jog in place at the front of the classroom, but wait, the principal needs 3 friends to go to the office (those students go to the door), how many friends are left? Then write out the subtraction problem.

Implementation

Retrieval (Modified)

Length

30 min.

- 1) The teacher will review taking away (from either 10 or 12 cups) so that students can visualize their task.
- 2) Set up the cup pyramid against a wall and relate it to the recording sheet.
- 3) The teacher will roll the ball and ask students how many she knocked over or took away and how many are left. The class will translate that into a subtraction equation. The teacher will make sure students know to roll, not throw.
- 4) After having the students practice and allow students to demonstrate their task, the teacher will divide the class into groups of 2. Each group will have a cone that will act as the point they must stand behind to roll their ball.
- 5) The teacher will have the groups take turns and record their equation on the sheet and check their equation with their partner. Once the equation is recorded, the other student will go.
- 6) After each turn, the students will reassemble their 10 (or more) cups to form their pyramid.
- 7) Play will continue until students have had the opportunity to complete a series of subtraction problems.

Cool Down

The class will quietly clean up their supplies and take a series of bowling stretches (stretch wrists, arm, neck and knees).

Modifications

The amount of cups can be varied depending on the students' skill levels.

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