Fun With Number Cards!

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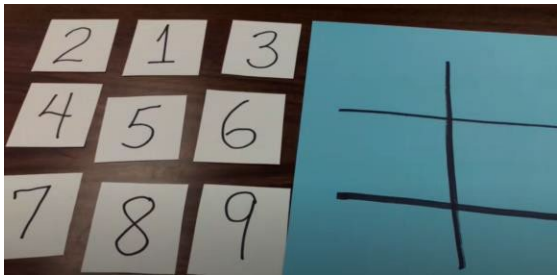
Grade Range	Content Areas	Materials
Grades 1 – 4	• Number • Addition • Problem-solving	• Paper • Pencil • Scissors

Activities

Before beginning either activity, create number cards with numbers 0-9. You can write these numbers with anything (pencil, pen, marker, crayons). These numbers should be a consistent size. Cut out the numbers into squares/rectangles.

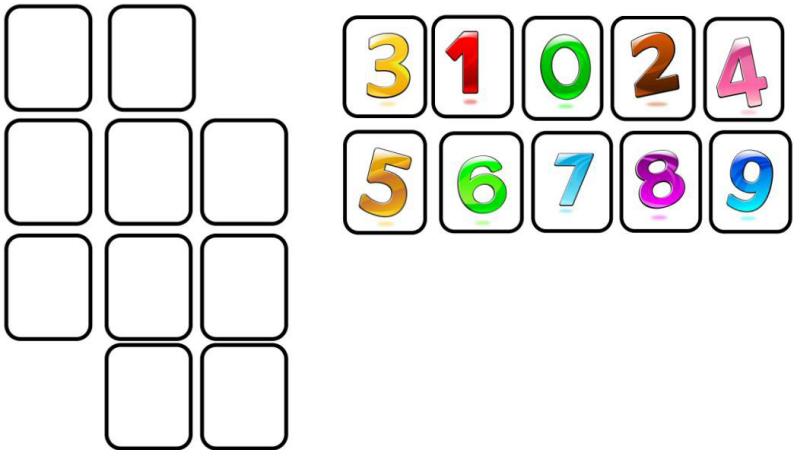
Activity 1: Addition Tic-Tac-Toe
Sourced from: Tic-Tac-Toe Mathematics
Object of the game: To place the third number to get a column, row, or diagonal that adds up to **15**.



How to play:

1. You will need numbers 1-9 for this game.
2. Draw a Tic-Tac-Toe board on a piece of paper.
3. Find a partner to play against or play left hand against right hand.
4. This game is played like traditional tic-tac-toe but with addition where players take turns placing numbers on the board.
5. The player who goes first **cannot** place the number 5 in the middle.
6. Take turns placing numbers on the board trying to be the last to add up to 15 in a column, row, or diagonal.

Activity 2: Next Door Neighbour Numbers
Sourced from: Problems Worth Solving in a Thinking Classroom (Grade 2 Resources - Activity #13)
Object of the game: arrange the cards so that no two consecutive numbers are next to each other, horizontally, vertically, or diagonally.



How to play:

1. You will need number cards with 0-9 for this problem.
2. Arrange the cards as shown in the picture above (one row of two, two rows of three, and a row of two) without having two consecutive numbers touching (horizontally, vertically, or diagonally).
3. This means 1 cannot be touching 2, 2 cannot be touching 1 or 3, 3 cannot be touching 2 or 4, and so on.

Extensions, Modifications & Additional Resources
Questions for Extension/Reflection **Activity 1: Addition Tic-Tac-Toe** (Tic-Tac-Toe Mathematics) • Does this addition game work if you try to add up to a different number? • Is there a best number to play first? In what spot on the board? Why or why not? **Activity 2: Next Door Neighbour Numbers** (Problems Worth Solving in a Thinking Classroom) • There are multiple solutions to this problem. How many can you find? • What is the most challenging part of this problem?