

LUCK OF THE IRISH

Purpose: Student will gather and compare shamrocks collected in this movement activity. They will also make a graph with their shamrocks.

Suggested Grade Level: K -1

Math SOL: Probability and Statistics K.14, 1.15

Equipment/Materials Needed:

1. Precut shamrocks (± 80)
2. Three shower curtains turned into an 8 x 8 grid (room for 24 students)

Advance Preparation:

1. Spread pre-cut shamrocks in open area.
2. Spread shower curtains out on the floor. You may want to write student names on slips of paper so they are assigned a specific row on one of the curtains.

Directions:

1. Have students spread out in open area where the shamrocks are located.
2. Have them move in a variety of ways around the shamrocks.
3. Give them directions like jump “over” the shamrocks, or skip in and out among different shamrocks.
4. Instruct students to collect as many shamrocks as they can when they hear you say “Luck of the Irish”.
5. Instruct students to bring shamrocks inside and go to an assigned shower curtain and their assigned row.
6. Instruct students to place their shamrocks in their row from bottom to top.
7. Ask and discuss the following:
 - a. who has the “most?”
 - b. who has the “least?”
 - c. who has the “same?”
 - d. how many more does the person with the least amount need to have the same amount as the person with the most?
 - e. what are the total number of shamrocks on your graph?

Teaching Suggestions:

1. Have a few extra shamrocks “up your sleeve” to drop near students who are not being successful getting to shamrocks.
2. Laminate shamrocks so they can be used again.

Modifications/Variations:

1. Have older students create a math sentence based on their results. For example, “Jennifer has 3 more shamrocks than Ethan, but 2 less than Sarah.”
2. For younger students, you may want to have them lay their shamrocks on the floor beside another student instead of using the large graph.

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