

THE AMAZING CURTAIN RACE

Purpose: Students will apply their knowledge of multiplication facts to complete a multiplication table.

Suggested Grade Level: 3-5

Subject/SOL: Math 3.9, 4.7, 4.8, 5.3

Equipment/Materials Needed:

1. Two shower curtains (you can find these at the Dollar Tree)
2. Post It notes (180). You may use 90 of two colors or if you use 180 of one color use two different colored markers for labeling. (you may print attached sheets)

Advance Preparation:

1. Create a 10x10 grid on each shower curtain.
2. Write 2 sets of numbers 2-10, in random order, on the top and side column on each grid.
3. Write the answers that fit the grid on Post It notes (see below). Make the answers for one grid a different color than the answers for the other.
4. You may print out pre printed numbers twice onto different colored paper for two grids.

Directions:

1. Show students the grids on the floor with only the numbers at the top and on the sides.
2. Explain that will be filling in the grid with the Post It notes that have been prepared.
3. Split the class into two teams so that there are more opportunities for students to practice their computation. Assign one team to one grid using “red” Post It notes and the other using “blue” Post It notes.
4. Spread the post it notes on one side of the room away from the grids.
5. Instruct students to jump over, select a Post It, jump to the grid, and then place the post it in the correct box.
6. Have students retrieve numbers/post it notes until each team has filled their grid.

Two finished grid examples with the same set of numbers are pictured to give you an idea of how the finished product will look like.

	5	4	8	6	9	7	2	10	3
3	15	12	24	18	27	21	6	30	9
10	50	40	80	60	90	70	20	100	30
5	25	20	40	60	45	35	100	50	15
4	20	16	32	24	36	28	8	40	12
8	40	32	64	48	72	56	16	80	24
2	10	8	16	12	18	14	4	20	6
7	35	28	56	42	63	49	14	70	21
6	30	24	48	36	54	42	12	60	18
9	45	36	72	54	81	63	18	90	27

	5	4	8	6	9	7	2	10	3
3	15	12	24	18	27	21	6	30	9
10	50	40	80	60	90	70	20	100	30
5	25	20	40	60	45	35	100	50	15
4	20	16	32	24	36	28	8	40	12
8	40	32	64	48	72	56	16	80	24
2	10	8	16	12	18	14	4	20	6
7	35	28	56	42	63	49	14	70	21
6	30	24	48	36	54	42	12	60	18
9	45	36	72	54	81	63	18	90	27

Teaching suggestions

1. If using more than one grid, make sure that either the Post It notes are different colors, or that the marker used for one grid is different than the other to avoid confusing which numbers belong to which grid.
2. Write the numbers used for column 1 and row 1 in black so they can differentiate between the factors and the multiplication products.
3. This can be challenging when products are placed in the wrong box. Explain that students can move numbers, but must verify with other team members prior to moving a product that someone else has placed down.

Modifications/added activities:

1. Have students at each grid “pair up”. Have one of the pair retrieve a product and bring it back. Have the pair agree on the box it belongs in and then the other partner will take a turn.
2. Use more than two grids, or just use one grid.
3. Assign one student to be the grid organizer and/or “checker” for each team.
4. Put the factors in sequential order. This will help students out by letting them use skip counting.
5. Make the numbers different on the two grids so that teams are deterred from looking at the other team’s grid for answers.
6. Use one grid as a novice grid and one as an advanced grid.
7. If there is not enough floor space, hang grids on wall using a bulletin board or wall.

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