

IMPROPER FRACTION PARTNER

Purpose: Students will search for their partner using mixed numbers and improper fractions.

Suggested Grade Level: 4 - 5

Math SOL: Number and Number Sense 4.2, 5.2

Equipment/Materials Needed:

1. Index cards

Advance Preparation:

1. Write a mixed number on one index card.
2. Write its matching improper fraction on another index card.
3. Create as many pairs of matches as you have students.

Directions:

1. Hand each student one of the index cards face down.
2. When all cards have been handed out, have students stand up.
3. Tell them to look at their index card.
4. Tell them they will need to find their match. If they have a mixed number they need to locate the person in the room that has the improper fraction to go with it. If they have an improper fraction, they need to change that to a mixed number and locate the person with that card.
5. When students find their partner, have them stand together and do a physical activity of their choice, or an assigned physical activity, until everyone has found their partners.
6. When all matches are found, have students share their improper fractions and mixed numbers with the class.(if a document camera is available – have pairs take turns placing one of their cards onto the camera and prior to the partner placing their match, have the class say what the partner should have so that all students remain engaged)
7. Once everyone has shared, have students walk around and change index cards with people for thirty seconds. Repeat the activity and have them find their new partner.
8. Continue as time permits.

Teaching Suggestions:

1. Make the denominator the same for many cards so students don't just look for the common denominator. This way they have to have to think through their specific fraction.
2. Place the pairs together and have them add/subtract their fractions (meets SOL Math 5.7).
3. If there are an uneven number of students in the class, the teacher will need to participate.

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