

ROUNDING TAG

Purpose: Students will practice rounding numbers.

Suggested Grade Level: 2 - 5

Equipment/Materials Needed:

1. Cones to designate play area end lines and a mid line.

Math SOL: Number and Number Sense 2.1, 3.2, 4.1, 5.1

Advance Preparation:

1. Locate a large play area, such as the gym, school lobby, empty cafeteria, out-door area, etc.
2. Designate a rectangular play area and mark opposite end-zones (safe areas) and a mid line with cones. The mid line will be the start line.
3. This is similar to the outdoor game called “Crows and Cranes”

Directions:

1. Divide the students into two groups.
2. Assign one group to be the “rounding up” group, and the other group to be the “rounding down” group.
3. Have the “rounding up” students stand side by side along the mid-line. Once positioned correctly, they will face the mid-line and a safe zone at the other end of the play area.
4. Have the “rounding down” students stand side by side on the other side of the mid-line, facing the “rounding up” students and the other safe zone at the other end of the play area. The two lines of students facing each other should be about 5 feet apart.
5. Tell the students they will be attempting to move to their end- line “safe zone”, which will be behind them, without being tagged.
6. Call-out a number.
7. If the number called out rounds up, the “rounding up” students turn around and run to their safe zone trying not to be tagged by students in the other group. If the number called out rounds down, the “rounding down” students turn around and run to their safe zone without being tagged by the students in the other group.
8. Tell the students that if they are tagged by the opposite team, they join the opposing team during the next round.
9. Have students quickly return to the middle for the next number.

Teaching Suggestions:

1. The playing area needs to be fairly large.
2. You may want to use a locomotor skill other than running (hopping, skipping, etc.) since running can be dangerous if someone goes the wrong way, which will happen.
3. You may use flags or scarves to prevent the “I tagged you/no you didn’t” controversy.
4. Remind students to run in a straight line to their safe zone so they do not collide with others.

Modifications/Variations:

1. Have students pair up prior to assigning sides and then have all students face their partners creating the two sides with the midline separating them– they are only allowed to try to tag their specific partner instead of anyone on the opposing side.

2. Have the entire class line up, side by side, at the mid line and assign a rounding up side and a rounding down side. .
3. In the classroom, have students stand in the middle and move to one side of the room or the other instead of running outside.
4. Use with odd or even, true or false, Greece or Rome, China or Egypt, 3D shape or 2D shape, vertebrate or invertebrate etc..

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