

Hello from Box Cars with this week's games! We hope that all our teachers had a restful Labor Day long weekend, and that you are energized to take on the week's challenges (of which we are sure there are $\underline{\text{many}}$.) Today we are taking another look at the game Salute, this time with social distancing measures in place. We love Salute because is truly a "workhorse" kind of game! Not only does it allow students to practice their fundamental skills, but it also builds the foundation for later work in middle years and algebra. We hope you will play it all year long! Start with cards Ace = 1 - 6, or for more of a challenge use Ace = 1 - 9. If your third-fifth grade students are struggling, you may want to start with the primary version of Salute to

build confidence and competence before moving onto the Upper Flementary

variation for Multiplication/Division. Attached below are the full rules for Salute as well as the concept skills checklists you can use for assessment.

Primary - A revisit of Salute for Addition/Subtraction, this time with Sydney (entering grade two) playing along. This is a relatively new activity for her, and so you will see her at a beginning level of understanding. She is an eager student and we know she will come to deeper levels of understanding the more she plays. Interestingly, she expresses that Salute is one of her favorite games, despite the fact that it is clearly challenging for her. You will see Jane try and coach her with some strategies as well as wait for her to come to the answers. Letting students try and come to an answer on their own - aka **Productive Struggle** - is crucial for developing a student's math fluency and confidence. It is often hard for us as teachers to wait for a student to try and "figure it out" without us jumping in to answer for them! But it is essential that students are allowed the time to come up with their answers - especially with tasks that are new and challenging.

Upper Elementary - A revisit of Salute for Multiplication/Division. We posted this game way back in early March, and it is our most viewed video on our Youtube page! As indicated above, this game lays the foundation for later work in middle years and algebra. This game should also be played all year long to keep students actively practicing their basic fluency while also working on the concept of "solving for X". To make the activity simpler, use cards Ace = 1 - 6. For more of a challenge you can use values Ace = 1 - 9 or Ace = 1 - 9 or

PRIMARY

SALUTE! Revisited with Social Distancing (Feat. Sydney)

Materials: Regular Playing Cards

Skills: Operations; Missing Addend, Counting on, Addition Strategies

Grade Levels: 1-3

Reproducibles: Full Salute Rules, Salute skills Checklist

UPPER ELEMENTARY

SALUTE! Revisited*

Materials: Regular Playing Cards

Skills: Operations (multiplication), integers

Grade levels: 4-6

Reproducibles: <u>Upper Elementary Salute Rules</u>, <u>Upper Elementary Salute Skills</u>

Checklist, Recording Sheet Four Function, Multiplication Board to 144**

*A further variation on Multiplication Salute would be making red cards negative integers and black cards positive integers. How does that impact gameplay? (le, if your partner has a red five on their forehead, and the general says the product is positive fifteen, what would the factor on your forehead have to be?)

between fractions, ratios and multiplication facts. It's fascinating to see how math is interrelated! This kind of explanation deepens students' understanding of the way math works, rather than the more limited perspective that comes through memorizing facts by rote. And having a deeper understanding of math gives students the tools they need to come to a solution if they do not know the answer by heart -the essence of math fluency!

Please email jane@boxcarsandoneeyedjacks.com if you have any suggestions for what you'd like to see or topics you'd like us to feature. Additionally, make sure to check out our previous COVID newsletters that we posted from March through June (link below). There are well over 50 videos, games and PDF gameboards that you can use in your teaching. Note that all these resources are free to use and share with your families and colleagues.

What's New In Box Cars Land

Don't forget - we have upcoming open webinars scheduled for later this month! If you're interested in a quick 90 minute ZOOM professional development webinar, please click the links below for information or to register.

For those of you whose students can't share math manipulatives, check out our Custom Math Bags page. Due to the success of these custom math sets, we will be introducing several new Math Bags customized by grade level and topic. Stay tuned for more information! They will be up for sale on our website within the next week or so.

Click the tiles below to see our Back-to School SALE page, our Custom Math Bag page, our bank of previous "Math at Home" resources, and our Webinar page, which features information on our new Muffins N' Math series of Saturday morning webinars. Check it out!













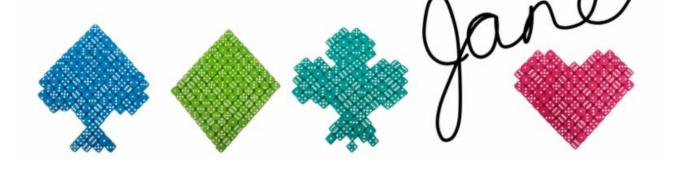




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Stay safe, stay sane, and whenever possible, stay home.

All our best wishes, The Box Cars Team <3



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