



box cars and one-eyed jacks

Happy New Year from Box Cars and One-Eyed Jacks.

It has been inspiring to both John and I to see teachers maintain their levels of dedication to their students, families, and colleagues throughout 2020. Thank you for all the support you've shown us - whether it has been through booking workshops, accessing [our library of free games](#) and sharing them with colleagues and parents, or by visiting our website and purchasing our resources. All of these intentional acts of support have helped keep our company running and ready to forge ahead in 2021. We also want to thank our staff (Therasas 1 & 2) for carrying us through 2020, as well as John for keeping Box Cars on the cutting edge technology-wise. 2020 has made us appreciate not being on the road quite so much, but of course we miss doing conventions and seeing you all in person. Providing webinars over Zoom continues to be challenging, but it has helped us better understand the struggles teachers are facing in their own virtual teaching. Your constructive feedback was instrumental in helping us refine and improve our webinar presentation techniques. We will continue to learn and grow in 2021.

Typically, January/February is when we usually get calls from districts and schools for summer and fall professional development trainings. If you are looking ahead at future Pro D, be aware that we can book a workshop as virtual and then consider switching to in-person training closer to the date, should conditions allow. We have lots of availability March - June and beyond. Sharing a workshop or webinar with other schools is a great way to cut costs. Note that there are no charges to hold a date.

We continue to receive requests for open-registration webinars. We tried many different scenarios in 2020 (length, topics, etc.), but it was difficult to pin down the best time slots given the varying time zones across North America. As of right now we do not have any open webinar dates planned in 2021, HOWEVER, if you can assemble 10 - 15 colleagues or friends, we can schedule a private webinar and cater to your group's specific time/content preferences. If you are interested in this kind of custom webinar, please contact us for further information.

Throughout the fall we also did many virtual [Family Math Nights](#). Family Math Nights are great for building school community and engaging parents directly. The feedback from administrators, teachers and parents has been super positive. Box Cars can provide discounted pricing when you use school grants/parent council funding; other schools use donations to get resources like cards and dice into families' hands. Again, please contact us if you would like more information.

Now that the holiday season is over, we will resume putting out games emails featuring our favorite activities for you to share with your students and families. As ever, we will be selecting games that use easily found manipulatives like cards, regular dice and dominoes - no specialty materials needed! We will also be focusing on social distancing and virtual presentation strategies. We hope to make these games emails a bi-monthly newsletter feature, so please stay tuned!

To start the new year, we are highlighting two games from [Decadice](#). Although Decadice is geared for K - 3, there are plenty of activities that can reinforce place value concepts for students in the 4 - 6 range: operations with place value up in the 10s - 100s, mental math strategies, number line work, etc. Decadice is also packed with journal writing questions and student samples to promote deeper levels of understanding.

[Capture the Center](#)

Materials: Mixed coins OR play money including nickels, dimes and quarters; decade dice OR cards 0-9

Skills: Counting mixed change, problem solving, mental math

Grade Levels: 2-4

Reproducibles: [PDF Rules](#)

[Two Hundred](#)

Materials: one decadice (00-90 die) or cards (Ace through 9; Ace is equal to 1)

Skills: Adding 10s to 200, mental math, probability

Grade levels: 2-4

Reproducibles: [Gameboard and Rules PDF](#)

If you are needing individualized student place value kits, check out our [CSSO2 Primary Place Value Set](#) or [CSSO4 Upper Elementary Place Value Set](#). These sanitizable kits ensure that students are not touching each other's manipulatives, and are also great for sending home.

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. You can find our entire bank of COVID newsletters linked below. There are well over 100 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. Be sure to keep in contact and please think of us when it comes time to book some professional development. We wish you all a safe, happy, and healthy 2021.

What's New In Box Cars Land

Do you love color as much as we do? Now you can purchase [INDIVIDUAL FILLED DICE SHAKERS](#) on our website! Available in all our fun dice colors AND Rainbow!

Also new to our website: the ability to select dice colors for [MATH SHAKER KITS](#) and mesh bag colors for our [DOMINOES!](#)

Please also visit our [SALE](#) page for all the best deals! Notable sale items this new year are the Rolling into Math and Math Fun"Die"mentals Dice Tray Class Kits: now \$159.95 (regular \$174.95) until March 31st.

And don't forget to use your coupon if you've attended a webinar with us! They are located on the back page of our





If you know anyone who would like to be added to our newsletter list, please visit our [Newsletter sign up](#) page. If you would like to unsubscribe to our newsletters, click the unsubscribe button at the very bottom of this email.

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

All our best wishes,
The Box Cars Team <3



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