

BUILDING BLOCKS

Reading...

WINTERGREEN
Canada's #1 learning materials website

2009 Back-To-School Issue



[Click here for more info on HOLES QUIZ GAME SHOW](#)

LESSON PLAN FOR "HOLES" CLASSIC LITERATURE GAME SHOW

Set up the pocket chart in a spot that is clearly visible to the whole class. Separate the cards into the pockets with five category cards along the top and four questions cards from top to bottom for each category. Place the point cards overtop of the question cards.

For extra support, you can choose to preview some of the questions you will be using during the game.

Separate the students into partners or small groups and allow them to use their books to find answers.

Give them clues as to where they can retrieve the information they need to find the answers. Divide the students up into three teams or ask for three volunteers. You could also designate a scorekeeper and a game show host, or perform these duties yourself.

Have the first player choose a category and a point value. The host will reveal either a question

card or a bonus card from the pocket. The host then reads the question out loud. Player one gives his/her answer. If their answer is correct then the corresponding points are awarded and he/she continues to play. Player one continues until he/she gives an incorrect answer.

Should player one answer the question incorrectly the other two teams have a chance to answer the question and earn the points.

Depending on if a player on team two or three answers the question correctly then play would resume as above.

If no one on any of the teams answers correctly, the host would read the answer out loud and turn the question card over in the pocket chart.

Continue going from one team to the next until all cards have been read and answered. Award one team the winner based on points.

EXTENTION ACTIVITIES

- As part of the activity, have the students provide the answers to their own questions on the back of the cards
- You can also incorporate this activity to use with other books you choose to read with the class in the future

Target Areas: Reinforcement of story elements Comprehension strategies, i.e., inferencing, evaluating, etc.

Supports: Differentiated Instruction, Whole Class and Small Group Instruction

Assessment: Use to assess students' knowledge of text and higher level thinking skills such as inferencing and analyzing.

Writing...



[Click for more info on the Classroom Publishing Centre](#)

Though the fundamentals of writing are standard, the manner in which they are taught can certainly differ. With the right product you can create excitement, interest, and maybe even ambitions.

The Classroom Publishing Centre has all you need to set up shop and have your students creating newspapers, magazines, and even books. Not only does this kit capture the look of real-life mediums for writing but it also allows you to assess essential target areas while your students have a blast.

Your students will love to see their best writing published and presented in a professional manner. Not only that, but the centre also provides various areas for students to allow creative juices to flow, through use of their own illustrations. Students provide the corresponding picture to go along with a late breaking news story, or a character illustration to complement their first published novel.

Though fun is certainly in the works with this great kit, skill building is the main focus with this great product.

The Classroom Publishing Centre targets key areas for assessment. Recommended for grades

one to three; the Centre allows teachers to assess students in the areas of spelling, grammar, vocabulary, and punctuation.

As your students formulate the plots of their classic novel or write a captivating headline for their magazine article they will develop the correct use of punctuation and grammar while honing their spelling and learning higher levels of vocabulary.

As well students can begin to enhance their use of narrative and expository text while capturing a scene or describing a key character.

Working toward a higher level, students can also learn to proofread their own work; focusing on spelling and commonly misspelled words, using the convenient list that comes with the centre.

This Centre can also work well in different forms within your classroom --- from independent work to whole-or small-group instruction. The Centre comes with a publishing checklist and step-by-step instructions to assist students and encourage independent learning.

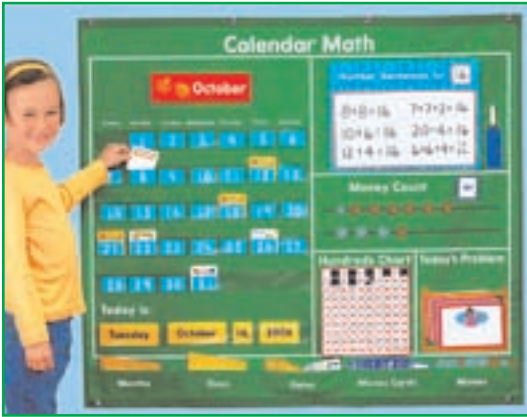
After a demonstration of the usage of each of the publishing templates and an explanation of the checklist and list of commonly misspelled words as their guides; you can start your students working independently on their masterpieces.

The Centre comes with 30 newspaper templates, 30 magazine templates, and 30 book templates; which have marked lines for writing and spaces for illustrations

Students have all the materials needed for putting together completed pieces of published work. They'll find stamps for creating dazzling and bold headlines, stencil sheets to help illustrate and complement their stories, and a handbook to help guide them along the publishing process -- from research to editing the final product.

A sure-to-be hit. [Click here for more information on the Classroom Publishing Centre and a variety of other writing products.](#)

Arithmetic...



*Click here
for more
info on the
Calendar
Math
Centre*

There are numerous products that can help you take advantage of multiple lessons at one time; allowing you to tackle essential subjects within your classroom without having to move between various resources.

What's more, is the ability to be able to integrate various curriculum essentials into different activities. Languages, math, and other essentials can be incorporated into multiple activities through practical products and resources.

Having a resource at your disposal that integrates math into an everyday activity in an efficient and fun manner can be a real boon for any educator. The Elementary Calendar Math Centre can be just the resource you need to get your kids excited while you practice calendar concepts and a variety of math skills all at once.

Recommended for kindergarten to grade two students, the Calendar Math Centre allows a selection of skills to become part of the class routine; thus reinforcing both math and calendar concepts on a regular basis with hands-on activities.

Introduce and/or reinforce important math skills such as patterning, counting, estimation, equivalence, money sense, operations, algebraic thinking, place value, and problem solving with engaging activities on this colourful calendar that students will love to use.

Versatility is the one of the most noticeable windfalls you will find with this particular resource. The Centre can be used as part of your everyday

routine; your morning line-up, a math warm-up or complementary resource, a small group activity, or even as an independent learning resource that you help students with on a one-on-one basis.

The Calendar Math Centre provides a resource for assessing students in numerous essential areas. Through its use, students will be able to comprehend calendar concepts and solve problems using that calendar. But it doesn't stop there. Using the other features students will be able to make equivalent equations, identify and

learn coin values creating real-world value and association, use reasoning to support math conclusions and problem solutions, and demonstrate an understanding of patterns and how to extend them on their own.

The Centre comes with a handy teacher's guide that will provide you with ideas for the activities, and once you have everything in place and your ideas in mind, the versatile nature of the product will do the rest.

There are a variety of activities for each section of the Centre that can be integrated into your daily routine or a complementary math lesson.

For example: use the double-sided number cards to discuss special days of the month during your morning routine. Go through the day's date as always then discuss special days of the month such as holidays or birthdays, the day of the week these special occasions fall on and how many of those days occur within the month.

From there, the lesson is yours to adapt and extend in any number of ways.

The Centre comes with over 350 cards including 50 double-sided problem cards, over 150 calendar cards, an activity guide and more.

A versatile and practical resource that shouldn't be missed.

Click here for more information on the Elementary Calendar Math Centre and other useful math resources.

Working Together to Improve Fitness Levels in Canadian Schools!

Canadian National Half-pipe Champion Brad Martin's commitment to fitness helped him secure a spot on the Canadian National Snowboard team at the age of 16.

Brad had the opportunity to represent Canada at the 2006 Olympic Games and hopes to reach the podium at home in Canada at the 2010 Olympic Winter Games in Vancouver.

As the 2009 ambassador for the Go Active! Fitness Challenge, he hopes his experience can inspire Canadian students to reach their goals in the gym, in the classroom or like Brad on the mountain.

PROMOTE PHYSICAL ACTIVITY

With the goal of promoting physical activity through sport, McDonald's Restaurants of Canada, proud sponsor of the Olympic movement, has developed the Go Active! Fitness Challenge.

The Go Active! Fitness Challenge is inspired by the Canada Fitness Awards, but instead of sim-

ply focusing on excellence, the emphasis has shifted to individual improvement. To date more than 175,000 students have taken the challenge.



National Half-pipe Champion Brad Martin

GET STARTED TODAY

Participating schools* will be provided with tools to run the Go Active! Fitness Challenge including instructional posters, teacher's tool-kit, take-home letters for parents and "Go Active! Fitness Challenge" badges for all participating students.

Qualifying schools that submit completed fitness results can receive up to \$500 in WINTERGREEN phys-ed equipment.

*The program will be available to a limited number of elementary schools in BC, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Ontario, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and PEI,

so sign-up soon.

For full program details, official rules and contact information please go to www.fitnesschallenge.ca