Math Lesson Plan #8 Math is in the Cards!

Introduction: Today we will discover how to use playing cards in math. Math doesn't have to be boring! Most of us like playing cards. Using playing cards can make addition, subtraction and multiplication fun. On the handout "Math Can Be Fun!" you will see three different ways to use your cards.

Objectives:

In this lesson, students will:

 The student will be able to use playing cards to add, subtract and multiply.

Session time: Approximately one hour

Materials:

- Handout; "Math can be fun!"
- Deck of playing cards for each student to share
- Pencils and paper

Methods:

Students will work in pairs.

Procedures:

Explain and demonstrate how to play each type of card game.

Conclusion:

Tell them they may take the cards home and answer any questions or concerns. Ask them if they see using this information in life helpful. Ask them if they know of other ways to use cards for math.

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Slap Facts – Two students can lay down one card face up at the same time. The person who shouts out the product (or sum, or difference) gets to keep that pair.

Factor Go-Fish – This is like regular Go-Fish, but instead of asking for 8's or 6's or whatever, the student has to say "Do you have any factors of 24? Or 12" Once they have 3 factors of a particular number, they can lay them down as their book.

Practice Problem Solving – For whatever operation your student is learning, have them use their cards to make problems to solve. For example, if you want them to add two 4-digit numbers, ask them to turn eight cards face up and arrange them into the two largest four digit numbers they can and add them up.