

E.T. - A LOCAL WAY OF LEARNING

Title: ENVIRONMENTAL RACE

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Environmental Education Team

Grade Level: 4-6

Concepts: 2. Ecosystem
11. Individual Acts

Disciplines: 1. Language Arts
2. Mathematics
3. Physical education

Objective:

From a set of clues, students will correctly determine selected letters, mathematically compute a given number as directed, and position themselves at a numbered predetermined spot to spell out a word significant to ecological understanding.

Rationale:

For a change of pace, use the outdoor schoolyard in a combination language, math, and physical education class. Students will learn some words, do math, and get some exercise in a fun learning experience with a little competition added. If class is too small, combine or do with just one class team.

Materials Needed:

Broad tip felt marking pen
22 sheets of 8-2 x 11 paper
Eleven weights to hold paper down
Eleven prepared clue slips as follows

Directions/Activity: (for the teacher only, show students only the clue slips)

1. Form a class or group that consists of two (2) teams of 11 members each. In addition, there should be two "starters" for each team, preferably a teacher and an aide or another adult. When outside, each starter will use a broad tip felt marker and some surface suitable for writing on.

2. Before going outside, prepare 11 sheets (8 1/2 x 11) of paper, boldly marking a number on each from one to 11. Also provide some objects or pins to hold the paper down on the ground.

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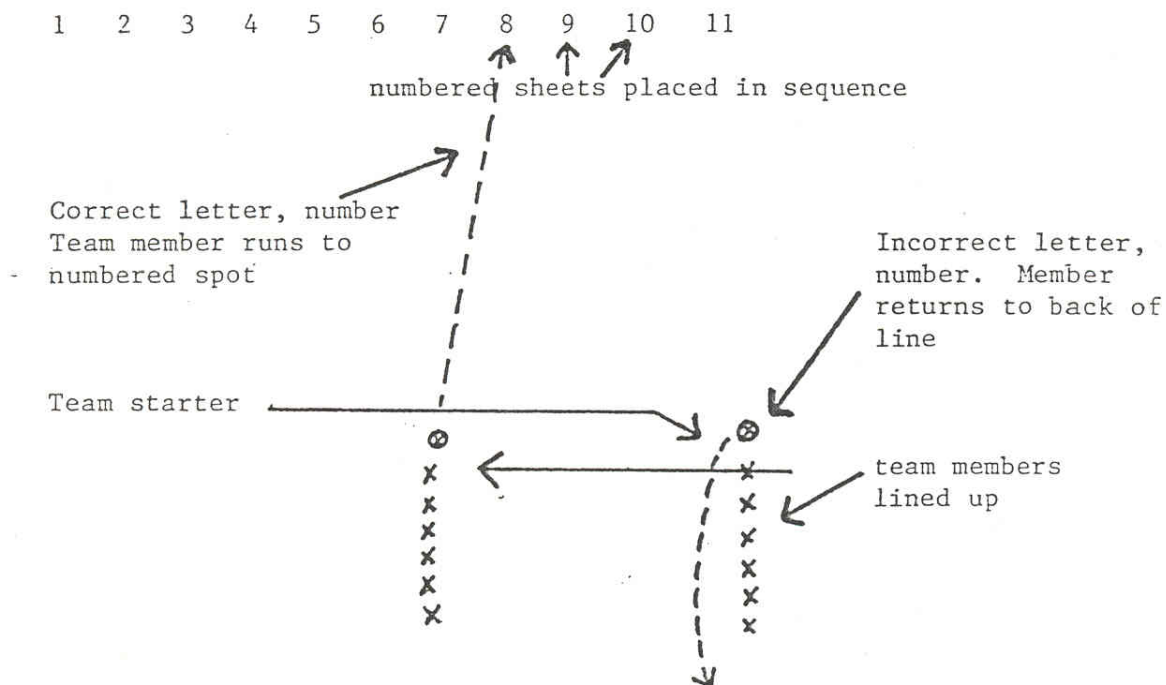
3. With the group outside, position each team member, one behind the other in a line facing each team starter. From this team positioning, walk off 10 paces, and there in a transactional line place the numbered sheets of paper on the ground, about a pace apart, placing the numbered sheets in succession from one to 11. Also give each team member an 8-2 x 11 blank sheet of paper.

4. Randomly select the clue slips for each team, giving one to first person in team line, with both teams starting at the same time.

5. If the team member correctly identifies the letter called for and performs the math- problem to arrive at the proper number, he-uses the blank sheet of paper to boldly print that letter, and then races with that letter to the spot with the corresponding number previously placed on the ground, not showing the letter to anyone.

If a team member cannot identify the letter or perform the math, that member must go to the back of the line to await another turn.

The following illustrates the setup as described above:



6. The team that first positions a member on all, the numbered spots is the winner, and when they hold up their letters, it should spell out the word ENVIRONNIENT.

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7. The following clue slips need be duplicated so that each team has a set-and you're ready to go. Maybe it will be fun!

8. Variations might be to have children race to numbered spots on all fours such as imitating a hopping frog or other animal. Starter must wait with next clue until the child reaches the correct numbered spot.

LETTER CLUE #1

The first letter of the name of a large animal normally found in Africa or Southeast Asia.

What is the name? _____

The first letter is: _____

Divide the number of letters in this word by 2, add 5 _____

LETTER CLUE #2

The first letter of the word (name) that makes everything go and grow in this world. _____

What is this word? _____

What is the first letter? _____

Subtract 5 from the number of letters in this word, the number left is _____

LETTER CLUE #3

First and last letter in the name for larger bodies of flowing water.

The name is _____

The letter is _____

Add zero to the number of letters in the word, your number is _____

LETTER CLUE #4

One of two similar middle letters for the name of a season of the year.

The name is _____

The letter is _____

Subtract 2 from the number of the letters in the word, add 4; your number is _____

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LETTER CLUE #5

Last letter of the name for the main energy source for the earth.

The name is _____

The last letter is _____

Multiply the number of letters in this name by 2 and add 1; your number

is _____

LETTER CLUE #6

First letter of the name of a species (kind) of very small animal.

The word is _____

The first letter is _____

Divide the number of letters in this word by 2, add 1; your number is _____

LETTER CLUE #7

First letter of the name for a simple weather instrument that shows wind direction. _____

The word is _____

The first letter is _____

Multiply the number of letters in this word by 3; subtract 9; your number is _____

LETTER CLUE #8

One of two similar middle letters for the name given to things just dropped or thrown around on the landscape.

The name is _____

The letter is _____

Add 5 to the number of letters in this name. _____

Your number is _____

LETTER CLUE #9

The last letter of the name for a common farm animal that lays eggs.

The name is _____

The last letter is _____

Divide the number of letters in this word by 3; add 1, the number is _____

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LETTER CLUE #10

First letter for the name of a chemical element that the air we breathe supplies for the body.

The name is _____

The letter is _____

The number of letters in this name is _____

LETTER CLUE #11

First letter for the general name of all such things as soil, plants, animals that we see around us.

We call her "Mother". _____

The name is _____

The first letter is _____

Multiply the number of letters in this word by 3; subtract 8, the number is _____