

Olympic Ring Math

Introduction:

- ◆ Prepare floor area and divide class into small groups.
- ◆ Introduce the history and symbolism of the Olympic Rings.
- ◆ Match the color of the rings to mathematical operators. (Red +, Blue -, Green x, Yellow ÷, Black =)

Through:

- ◆ Begin with the hoops arranged on the floor in the Olympic Rings.
- ◆ Read a math problem aloud, then allow the students to demonstrate the problem and the answer by standing inside a white circle, moving through the correct operator and standing in the black circle.
- ◆ Using a locomotor motion (walking, skipping, hopping, etc.) allow children to move around the hoops. Hold up a math problem card. Children should stop moving and immediately form the problem and answer.
- ◆ Review the answers and solve together. Begin with a new problem.

Beyond: Extensions

- ◆ Specify a particular motion or body part to go with each ring
- ◆ Use groups to express fractional amounts ($1/2$, $2/3$, $5/7$) and use rings to illustrate addition and subtraction of fractions
- ◆ Give answers instead of problems and allow children to form the correct equations.

Curriculum Standards

- ▶ Number Sense— calculate and solve problems involving addition, subtraction, multiplication and division
- ▶ Number Sense— solve problems that require two or more of the skills mentioned above
- ▶ Mathematical Reasoning— determine when and how to break a problem into simpler parts

Resources

- Five hula-hoops or colored circles on the floor representing the Olympic Rings for each group
- Several white hula hoops or circles
- Simple grade appropriate math problems on large cards
- [Http://www.aafra.org](http://www.aafra.org)
- [Http://www.naturalmath.com/](http://www.naturalmath.com/)