Addition (or Subtraction) War

Materials: Deck of Cards (Face cards = 10, Ace = 1)

Steps:

- Players divide cards evenly between themselves.
- Each player turns over 2 cards and adds them together.
- The highest sum gets all the cards.
- If there's a tie, WAR is declared. Each player deals out 3 more cards face down. Then, players turn over two more cards each, add the cards together, and the highest sum wins ALL of the cards.
- Play continues until 1 player has collected all of the cards.
- For subtraction, players subtract the smaller number from the larger number.

Addition Example:

Player 1: 2 + 4 = 8 Player 2: 3 + 7 = 10 Player 2 wins!

Subtraction Example:

Player 1: 7 – 4 = 3 Player 2: 9 – 8 = 1 Player 1 wins!

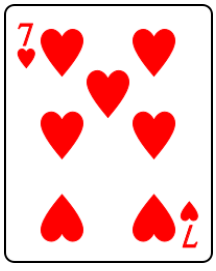


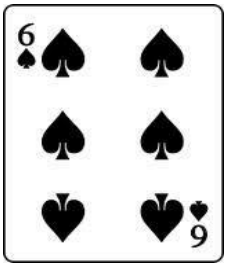
Guess the Unknown

Materials: Deck of Cards (Face cards = 10, Ace = 1)

Steps:

1. You will need a group of 3 people.
2. Player 1 is the dealer and gives players 2 and 3 each 1 card.
3. Without looking at the card, players 2 and 3 each hold their own card to their forehead (make sure you can see each other's card and player 1 can see your cards as well).
4. Player 1 adds the two numbers together and says the sum of the 2 numbers out loud.
5. Players 2 and 3 try to say their card out loud first. The first player to correctly say their card's number wins a point.
6. Play for a few rounds and then switch roles. Play until a predetermined amount of points is reached.

Player 2 has: 

Player 3 has: 

Example: Player 1 says "13!" (The sum of 7 + 6)

Player 2 says "7", so player 1 receives 1 point.

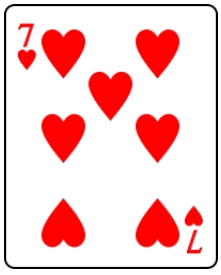
Addition Doubles Snap

Materials: Deck of Cards (Face cards = 10, Ace = 1)

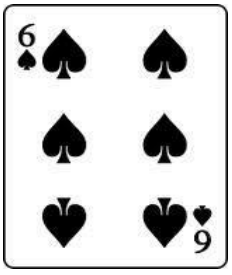
Steps:

- Players divide the cards evenly between themselves.
- At the same time, both players turn over 1 card.
- Each player doubles their card, and the player with the largest answer wins both sets of cards.
- Play continues until one player has all of the cards.

Example:



"7 doubled is 14"



"6 doubled is 12"

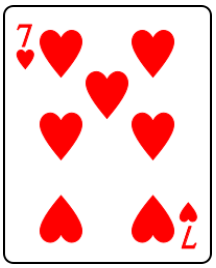
Player 1 wins with an answer of 14.

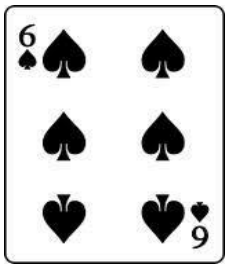
Addition (or Subtraction) Snap

Materials: Deck of Cards (Face cards = 10, Ace = 1)

Steps:

- Players divide the cards evenly between themselves.
- At the same time, each player turns over 1 card.
- Players add the cards together as quickly as possible and say the answer out loud.
- The player who gives the correct answer first collects both cards.
- Play continues until one player has collected all the cards.
- In a tie, play continues until one player gives a correct answer before the other and takes all the placed cards.
- In subtraction, the smaller card is subtracted from the larger card.





Example: Add: 7 + 6 = 13 and Subtract: 7 – 6 = 1

Multiplication War

Materials: Deck of Cards (Face cards = 10, Ace = 1)

Steps:

- Players divide cards evenly between themselves.
- Each player turns over 2 cards and multiplies them together.
- The highest product gets all the cards.
- If there's a tie, WAR is declared. Each player deals out 3 more cards face down. Then, players turn over two more cards each, multiply the cards together, and the highest product wins ALL of the cards.
- Play continues until 1 player has collected all of the cards.

Example:

Player 1: 2 x 4 = 8 Player 2: 3 x 7 = 21 Player 2 wins!

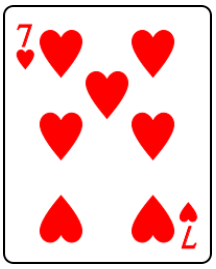


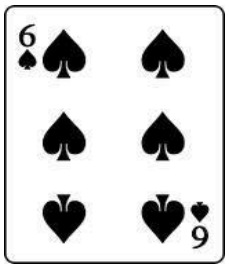
Multiplication Snap

Materials: Deck of Cards (Face cards = 10, Ace = 1)

Steps:

- Players divide the cards evenly between themselves.
- At the same time, each player turns over 1 card.
- Players multiply the cards together as quickly as possible and say the answer out loud.
- The player who gives the correct product first collects both cards.
- Play continues until one player has collected all the cards.
- In a tie, play continues until one player gives a correct answer before the other and takes all the placed cards.





Example: Multiply 7 x 6 = 42

Challenge: Ask the winner to also give the division equation (42 ÷ 6 = 7)

Other math fluency practice options:

Flash cards are a great way to reinforce basic facts (these can be purchased at the dollar store)

Crib is a great game to practice mental math equations using the addition of multiple numbers. ie: How many ways can you add numbers to make 15? to make 31?

Any games that involve money support mental math (Monopoly, Life, Rumikub)

Uno for number recognition

Ticket to Ride for addition of multiple numbers up to and over 100