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Giant Fishing 1-20 Teaching Guide



This user guide takes you through a variety of activities that can be used for your Giant Fishing 1-20 Set.

Activity 1: Identify Numbers 1-20

Children fish a number at random and pick out the fish. They then have to say the number on their fish before placing it back with the school of fish. For children with more advanced fine motor skills, they can choose a number between 1-20, look for the fish and then hook it out before saying the number on the fish.

Activity 2: 1 More and 1 Less

After catching a fish, the child reads out the number on the fish (see activity 1). After this, the child needs to say the numbers that are 1 more and 1 less of this number. So, if they hook the number 5 fish out, they will read the number 5, and then say that 1 less of 5 is 4, and that 1 more than 5 is 6. They then look for the 4 and the 6 fish and try to collect these with their rods. If they catch the number 20 fish, and identify that 21 is 1 more than 20, they could fish out a number 1 fish and add it to the number 20 fish to make the number 21, thus introducing them to basic addition skills.

Activity 3: Simple Addition and Subtraction

This activity is ideal for a pair of children fishing together, or can be done as an individual activity. If working in pairs, each child hooks a fish and collects it. They both say the number of their fish. Then, they add the number together and identify the total. So, if the children hook out a 4 and a 6 fish, they may identify that $4 + 6 = 10$. Exactly the same activity can be done with subtraction taking the small number away from the larger number – ie. $6 - 4 = 2$.

Activity 4: Counting

For this activity, classroom counters or natural materials are used. For the purposes of this guide, we will assume that pebbles are being used. The child collects a fish as normal with their rod and reads out the number. They then put the same number of pebbles next to the fish corresponding to that number. So, if they catch a fish number 8, they will put 8 pebbles next to the fish. The pebbles could be in a line, in a ten frame pattern or in a subitising pattern.

Activity 5: Number Line

The children collect the fish one by one, and lay them out in a number line. They can then do a range of number activities such as counting in 3's, 4's etc, or using the number line for addition and subtraction.

Activity 6: Simple Multiplication

For a more advanced activity, the children can hook out 2 numbers (ideally low numbers so that the answer is under 20 inclusive) and multiply them together. For example, they can catch fish numbers 3 and 4, and then try and locate the number 12 fish before saying that $3 \times 4 = 12$.

Activity 7: Odds and Evens

Children catch fish and say the number. They then identify if it is an even number or an odd number before either putting it back with all the other fish, or compiling separate odds and evens groups of fish.

Activity 8: Colour Recognition

Children pick a fish at random, identify the colour and then sort it into a colour pile. They will end up with 4 piles of fish representing red, blue, yellow and green fish.

Activity 9: Directional Language

At a basic level, the teacher can ask the child to catch a fish which is pointing a particular way – ie to the right or left. At a more advanced level, the teacher can also ask the child to pick a fish pointing towards classroom landmarks (door, window etc), this helping them to learn about directional language and words.