

## WHAT'S YOUR NUMBER

Developmental Benefit of Play: Develop Physical Skills



## Grades: 4-5

Physical play facilitates healthy brain development, including cognitive skills. Such skills are essential to learning. It's therefore no surprise that physical play helps kids focus and learn better. Vocabulary jumping jacks, math scavenger hunts, and body motions to represent science concepts are all fun ways to integrate movement and play with learning.

**Goal:** Students will practice comparing numbers and using mathematical operations, factors, and multiples to determine a missing number.

Time: 30 minutes

Materials: sticky note for each student

## Instructions:

- 1. Write whole numbers on sticky notes.
- 2. Give each student a sticky note to put on his
- or her forehead. Don't let students look at their own sticky notes!
- 3. Explain that students will ask each other

yes-or-no questions (related to math!) to determine their "secret identity."

**4.** Model for the class. Put a sticky note with the number 7 on your own forehead. Ask: *Am I less than 10?* (Yes.) *Am I an even number?* (No.) *Am I divisible by three?* (No.) *Am I greater than six?* (Yes.)

**5.** Have students circulate throughout the room so they can ask their classmates questions to figure out their secret number identity.

6. Once students have figured out their numbers, have students line up in numeric order.

**Level Up:** Customize the numbers based on your students' skills. For grade 4, include numbers in the hundreds and thousands so students can practice place value. For grade 5, include fractions or mixed numbers.

## **Toy Tip!**

Simple sports equipment can help add physical activity and motivation to the classroom. Students can toss a ball to the next speaker in a discussion, or even shoot a basketball when they ask a great question.